THE

# SCOTS MAGAZINE,

AND

# *Edinburgh Literary Miscellany,*

## FOR APRIL 1805:

*With a view of* CASTLE-CAMPBELL.

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State



CASTLE CAMPBELL.

State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from March 26. to April 25. 1805, in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

| 1805. | Barom. | Thermom. M. | Thermom. N. | Rain. In. Pts. | Weather. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| March 26 | 29.7 | 41 | 53 | — | Cloudy |
| 27 | 29.84 | 32 | 53 | — | Clear |
| 28 | 29.75 | 31 | 54 | — | Ditto |
| 29 | 29.631 | 44 | 57 | — | Ditto |
| 30 | 29.72 | 43 | 49 | 0.041 | Showers |
| 31 | 29.45 | 46 | 55 | 00.2 | Ditto |
| April 1 | 29.6 | 44 | 57 | 0.03 | Ditto |
| 2 | 29.67 | 34 | 51 | — | Clear |
| 3 | 29.5 | 40 | 55 | — | Ditto |
| 4 | 29.52 | 40 | 47 | 0.01 | Shower |
| 5 | 29.46 | 37 | 43 | 0.29 | Snow |
| 6 | 29.75 | 38 | 49 | — | Clear |
| 7 | 30. | 35 | 55 | — | Ditto |
| 8 | 30. | 45 | 55 | — | Ditto |
| 9 | 30.01 | 47 | 60 | — | Ditto |
| 10 | 29.96 | 48 | 54 | — | Ditto |
| 11 | 29.721 | 47 | 59 | — | Ditto |
| 12 | 29.57 | 42 | 63 | — | Ditto |
| 13 | 29.48 | 39 | 54 | 0.04 | Showers |
| 14 | 29.5 | 43 | 57 | — | Clear |
| 15 | 29.55 | 33 | 50 | — | Cloudy |
| 16 | 29.55 | 43 | 54 | — | Clear |
| 17 | 29.71 | 42 | 53 | — | Cloudy |
| 18 | 29.85 | 41 | 60 | — | Clear |
| 19 | 29.93 | 39 | 66 | — | Ditto |
| 20 | 29.98 | 42 | 62 | — | Ditto |
| 21 | 30.02 | 45 | 53 | — | Cloudy |
| 22 | 29.9 | 45 | 51 | — | Ditto |
| 23 | 29.87 | 42 | 55 | — | Clear |
| 24 | 29.5 | 41 | 48 | 0.1 | Rain |
| 25 | 29.61 | 44 | 43 | 0.15 | Ditto |
| | | | | 0.681 | |

Quantity of Rain 0.681

High Water at LEITH For MAY 1805.

| Days. | | Morn. H. M. | Even. H. M. |
|---|---|---|---|
| W. | 1 | 3 35 | 5 36 |
| Th. | 2 | 4 17 | 4 40 |
| Fr. | 3 | 5 3 | 5 26 |
| Sa. | 4 | 5 50 | 6 16 |
| Su. | 5 | 6 43 | 7 15 |
| M. | 6 | 7 49 | 8 27 |
| T. | 7 | 9 7 | 9 47 |
| W. | 8 | 10 27 | 11 0 |
| Th. | 9 | 11 26 | 11 50 |
| Fr. | 10 | — — | 0 14 |
| Sa. | 11 | 0 38 | 1 1 |
| Su. | 12 | 1 20 | 1 39 |
| M. | 13 | 1 58 | 2 16 |
| Tu. | 14 | 2 35 | 2 54 |
| W. | 15 | 3 12 | 3 31 |
| Th. | 16 | 3 49 | 4 8 |
| Fr. | 17 | 4 26 | 4 45 |
| Sa. | 18 | 5 3 | 5 22 |
| Su. | 19 | 5 40 | 5 59 |
| M. | 20 | 6 8 | 6 31 |
| T. | 21 | 6 57 | 7 26 |
| W. | 22 | 7 59 | 8 36 |
| Th. | 23 | 9 17 | 9 57 |
| Fr. | 24 | 10 34 | 11 9 |
| Sa. | 25 | 11 37 | — — |
| Su. | 26 | 0 6 | 0 43 |
| M. | 27 | 1 7 | 1 30 |
| Tu. | 28 | 1 52 | 2 13 |
| W. | 29 | 2 34 | 2 55 |
| Th. | 30 | 3 16 | 3 37 |
| Fr. | 31 | 3 58 | 4 19 |

MOON's PHASES, FOR MAY 1805.

*Apparent time at Edinburgh.*

| | D. | H. | M. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| First Qutr. | 5. | 11. | 33. | Eve. |
| Full Moon, | 13. | 2. | 12. | Eve. |
| Last Qutr. | 21. | 6. | 24. | Mor. |
| New Moon | 28. | 4. | 4. | Mor. |

## OBSERVATIONS.

May 7. Duchess of York born, (1767.)
14. Court of Session sits
16. General Assembly sits
18. Princess of Wales born, (1768.)
22. Princess Elizabeth born, (1770.)
29. King Charles restored, (1660.)

THE

THE

# Scots Magazine,

AND

# EDINBURGH LITERARY MISCELLANY,

FOR *APRIL* 1805.

## DESCRIPTION *of the* VIEW *of* CASTLE-CAMPBELL.

THIS celebrated castle has been frequently represented both by the painter and engraver; but the view we have now given will, perhaps, both in point of grandeur of effect and truth to nature, be found superior to any other. Indeed the original picture from which our print is taken, is one of the most admirable landscapes in water-colours which we ever remember to have seen.

Castle-Campbell has been so frequently represented and described, that it may be thought unnecessary to give a particular account of it. It appears to have come into the family of Argyle so far back as the year 1465. It was formerly called Castle-Gloom; and changed to Castle-Campbell, by an act of the Scots Parliament of the year 1493. At the æra of the revolution, Archibald, the 4th Earl of Argyle, was the first of our Scottish nobility who renounced the doctrines of the church of Rome; and hence, it is said, John Knox used to hold frequent meetings with the highminded and independent Earl, in support no doubt of the then newly-adopted opinions, for which many Campbells lost their lives.

In the years 1644 and 1645, Castle-Campbell underwent all the horrors of the civil wars. The Marquis of Montrose, the rival of the family of Argyle, carried fire and sword through the whole estate; the Castle was compleatly ruined, and its magnificent reliques remain a horrid monument of the dreadful severity of the times. No wonder that the heroic Marquis experienced so woful and ignominious a fate, when he fell into the hands of so powerful and exasperated a Chief as Argyle; and chancellor Loudon, a Campbell, had it in his power to pass sentence of death on the gallant Montrose, with all the sourness of a covenanter, and all the insolence of a Jefferies, as Pennant well expresses it:—Singular, how frequently this family had the power of acting as judges in causes in which they themselves had an interest, and the cruel uses they made of such power!

Castle-Campbell, when entire, was compleatly insulated with a fosse, which joined those parts of the glen that were compleatly inaccessible by precipices. Near the brink was a winding stair, cut out of the solid rock, down to the rivulet; this is said to have been more than 100 feet, from top to bottom, and about six feet wide. The passage is now nearly filled up with earth.

This castle, on the whole, is one of the most extensive and magnificent ruins to be found in the kingdom, and as such, equally interesting to the antiquary and artist.

MEMOIRS

## Memoirs *of the* Late Lord Duncan.

(*Concluded from our last, p.* 167.)

FROM the time of Lord Admiral Duncan assuming the command of the North-Sea fleet, a considerable period elapsed before he had an opportunity of rendering any brilliant services to his country. The station of commander of a British fleet is indeed peculiarly delicate, since he is expected, not only to defend this country, but also to gratify that avidity for news which prevails in an extraordinary degree throughout this nation. And though it be evidently impossible, that he should fight an enemy who never stirs out of port, yet there are many to whom this consideration is insufficient to allay the disappointment felt at the want of their favourite amusement. If any murmurs, however, were raised by this class of men, they were probably very little regarded by Admiral Duncan, who continued in the steady, and, so far as circumstances admitted, successful discharge of the duties attached to his command. These were chiefly the constant watching of the enemy's fleet, rendered more difficult by the shallows with which the coast abounded; and in the taking of occasional prizes, of which a numerous list is recorded.

In 1796, an alliance being formed between Great Britain and Russia, a Russian squadron arrived in the Downs, and was put under the command of Admiral Duncan. The events of the last war have often proved how rare it is for union and cordiality to be long maintained in such circumstances. The wide difference of language and manners between the two people, must have rendered it peculiarly difficult in the present case. No tendency towards dissension, however, manifested itself; and so highly did the British Commander recommend himself to the esteem of his foreign associates, that on a representation made by their Admiral to the Empress Catherine, that princess was pleased, unsolicited, to honour him with the imperial order of Alexander Newski, being the second in point of rank among the degrees of Russian knighthood.

But it was in the following year that he found himself in a situation critical and difficult beyond all former example. It will be readily understood, that we allude to that mutiny of the fleet, which brought this country so near to the brink of ruin. The first symptoms made their appearance while the fleet was in port, and Admiral Duncan then went successively through every ship, and succeeded in putting a temporary stop to the disorder. But on putting to sea, it broke out with greater violence than ever, and spread through the whole fleet, with the exception of the Venerable and Adamant, the former of which was the Admiral's own ship. On this occasion, he is reported to have made the following speech, replete with manly simplicity, and unaffected piety:

"My Lads,

"I once more call you together, with a sorrowful heart, from what I have lately seen—the disaffection of the fleet; I call it *disaffection*, for the crews have no grievances.—To be deserted by my fleet, in the face of an enemy, is a disgrace, which, I believe, never before happened to a British Admiral, nor could I have supposed it possible. My greatest comfort, under God, is, that I have been supported by the officers, seamen, and marines of *this* ship; for which, with a heart overflowing with gratitude, I

request you to accept my sincere thanks. I flatter myself much good may result from your example, by bringing those deluded people to a sense of the duty which they owe, not only to their King and country, but to themselves.

"The British navy has been ever the support of that liberty which has been handed down to us by our ancestors, and which I trust we shall maintain to the latest posterity; and that can only be done by unanimity and obedience. This ship's company, and others who have distinguished themselves, by their loyalty and good order, deserve to be, and doubtless *will* be, the favourites of a grateful country; they will also have from their inward feelings a comfort which will be lasting, and not like the fleeting and false confidence of those who have swerved from their duty.

"It has often been my pride with you to look into the Texel, and see a foe which dreaded coming out to meet us;—my pride is *now* humbled indeed! my feelings are not easily to be expressed!—our cup has overflowed, and made us wanton. The All-wise Providence has given us this as a warning, and I hope we shall improve by it. On Him then let us trust, where our *only* security can be found. I find there are many good men among us; for my own part, I have had full confidence of *all* in this ship; and once more beg to express my approbation of your conduct.

"May God, who has thus far conducted you, continue to do so; and may the British navy, the glory and support of our country, be restored to its *wonted* splendour, and be not only the *bulwark* of Britain, but the TERROR OF THE WORLD!

"But this can only be effected by a strict adherence to our duty and obedience; and let us pray, that the Almighty God may keep us in the right way of thinking.

"God bless you all."

Admiral DUNCAN spoke this to the crew of the Venerable, and such an effect had it on them, that there was not a dry eye on their retiring.

This address had no doubt a great influence in preserving these two ships in their duty; and though some slight symptoms of mutiny broke out on board the Venerable, yet by a wise mixture of firmness and lenity, they were soon suppressed. With this small force Admiral Duncan set sail for the Texel, and continued as before to watch the motions of the enemy. This last consisted of fifteen sail of the line, besides frigates and sloops of war; yet Admiral Duncan placing himself at the entrance of the Texel, where the channel was so narrow as to admit only of one ship passing at a time, determined to wait the issue, even of so unequal a contest. Meantime, by making a variety of signals, he contrived to deceive the enemy into the idea of his being in possession of much greater force. Admiral de Winter afterwards owned, that he imagined the Texel to have been blocked up by a force superior to his own. Having at length discovered his mistake, he resolved to come out, and had had even made the signal for sailing; but the wind suddenly changing, made the execution of this design impossible. Admiral Duncan was soon after joined by the Sans Pareil of 84, and the Russel of 74 guns; and other ships quickly following, soon put an end to the inequality of force. The enemies of this country thus lost an opportunity of humbling the British name, the most favourable by far that had ever presented itself.

No disposition was now manifested by the enemy to come out, until some months after, when the British Admiral found himself under the necessity of returning to port, in order to procure a supply of provision and naval stores. The Dutch fleet, upon

upon the imperious requisition, it would appear, of the French government, took advantage of this opportunity to leave their harbours, tho' with what precise object in view, seems never to have been fully ascertained. Sir Thomas Troubridge, who was stationed to watch their motions, gave immediate information of this movement to Admiral Duncan. The English fleet put to sea without delay, and on the eleventh of October, about nine in the morning, arrived in sight of the enemy, and came up with them after a chace of three hours. They were now returning into port, and were about seven miles from their own shore. The coast was shallow, for which their flat-bottomed vessels were well adapted, and they would have soon got into water of so little depth, that our vessels, from their different construction, would have been unable to follow them. A quarter of an hour would have placed them in safety. Admiral Duncan seeing that no time was to be lost, instantly gave the signal for breaking the enemy's line. The Dutch Admiral perceiving this intention, made a signal for his fleet to close, which was done with the utmost alacrity. The Venerable, however, intending to engage the Dutch Admiral's ship, forced its way between that vessel and the States General, by driving the latter out of the line. It then lay along side of the former, entitled the Vryheid, on board of which was De Winter. The combat lasted for about three hours, during which the Dutch fought with a desperate courage, worthy of better times and a better cause. About three o'clock, De Winter finding all further opposition fruitless, struck; and the weather soon after clearing up, it appeared that nine ships of the line and a frigate had done the same. The victory was now complete. The neighbouring shores were covered with people who, in the deepest consternation, beheld the final destruction of that navy, which had been their pride and bulwark during so many ages. It deserves here to be particularly recorded, that immediately on the cessation of the contest, the British Admiral having assembled his crew, knelt down, and with his own voice, returned thanks to the God of Battles for the splended victory with which he had crowned his arms. It seems impossible to conceive a scene more sublime and affecting.

About four o'clock in the afternoon De Winter was brought on board the Venerable, and was received with all that refined courtesy, which distinguishes civilized warfare. Soon after, the two Admirals sat down together to a game at picquet.

The following is the first account of this memorable engagement, transmitted by Admiral Duncan himself:

*To* EVAN NEPEAN, *Esq.*

*Venerable, off the Coast of Holland, the 12th of October, by Log (11th) Three P. M. Camperdown E. S. E. Eight Miles, Wind N. by E.*

SIR,

I have the pleasure to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that at nine o'clock this morning I got sight of the Dutch fleet; at half past twelve I passed thro' their line, and the action commenced, which has been very severe. The Admiral's ship is dismasted, and has struck, as have several others, and one is on fire.

I shall send Captain Fairfax with particulars the moment I can spare him. I am, SIR,

Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
ADAM DUNCAN.

It is needless to enlarge on the honours which awaited Admiral Duncan on his return; the royal visit which he received on board the fleet; his promotion to the peerage, with a pension

pension accompanying; the distinguished manner in which he was received by the House of Lords; and the marks of esteem conferred upon him by other eminent public bodies.

The fears entertained from the quarter of Holland, were in consequence of this victory nearly at an end. His Lordship, therefore, being now nearly seventy, and beginning to feel the infirmities of age, was prevailed upon by his friends to withdraw from active service, to the enjoyment of an honourable and well-earned repose. Several of the succeeding years were spent with his family, chiefly in Edinburgh, or at his estate of Lundie.

On the breaking out of the present war, however, which wore for some time such an alarming aspect, he thought it his duty again to make a tender of his services, which were gladly accepted. But, on repairing to London, to make the necessary arrangements, he was seized with an attack of the same illness which afterwards proved fatal. The public were assured, and his friends probably endeavoured to persuade themselves, that this was merely the consequence of an accidental fall. Feeling, however, his constitution materially affected, he felt a natural wish to return to his family, and set out from London, accompanied only by one servant. At Cornhill, in Berwickshire, on his way to Mr Buchan's of Kello, the second shock came on, which he survived only for a few minutes. This event happened on the 4th of August 1804, in the 73d year of his age.

Lord Duncan's figure was tall and majestic, being above six feet high. His countenance was expressive of magnanimity, joined with a great degree of candour and gentleness. His piety was sincere, and without ostentation; and his amiable virtues made him universally beloved in the circle of his private friends.

We have already mentioned, that he lost his eldest son; the second, a very amiable and promising young man, died some years ago on his way to Lisbon; the third son, Robert, has succeeded to the title and estate, the fourth has, like his father, engaged in the naval profession.

Lord Duncan left five daughters. The eldest, to whom he was peculiarly attached, was married to his entire satisfaction, to Sir Hew Dalrymple Hamilton, a gentleman possessed of extensive property in different parts of Scotland. The second has, since his death, been married to Major Ferguson, nephew and heir to Sir Adam Ferguson of Kilkerran, Bart. The present Lord Duncan has lately married Miss Janet Dalrymple, sister to his brother-in-law, Sir Hew Dalrymple Hamilton.

## *Original Letter from* JAMES V. KING *of* SCOTLAND, *to his Uncle* HENRY VIII.

RICHT excellent, Richt hie and mychty Prince, owre deerest uncle and brother. In oure maist harthe wyss, we recommend us unto you. Pleiss you understand that we being advertissit that certane personis upon oure bordouris of lewd demenor, sic as in tymes bepast, wer grete occasionn of the unnatural besines that hes happynnit amangis us, wer baithe sterit to comit secrete robberyis and theftis, quhairfore we causit sic dilligence be maid, that ane grete parte of theme wer apprehendit, and put to extreme punitionn for thair falts; and purposit harafter to mak farder triall be secrete inquisition uponn all oure bordouris uponn the remanent of the saidis malefactours; and that all the occasionn of the saidis displessrs sal be alntirlie extinguit. Quhairthrou ony spark of unkyndnis myght rysst betuix us, thairfore, deerest uncle, we have thocht gude to ad-

advertis you heirof, that ye mycht gif strait comand and charge to youre wardains and officiariis of your borders, that nane of the saidis malefactouris wer resset aydit nor supportit be ony of youre subjectis, like as in similalie maner we sall nocht faill to do for oure parte, uponn all oure bordours gif ony of your * * * * * * praying you that ye will caus the samyn * * * * * * with diligence fforder mycht it stand with your plessr that your lres of licence wer had that your lieges mycht sell parte of thair geldingis to oure suitours for interchange of others commoditeis of our realme, or money as thai conth aggre amangis thame selfeis, becaus thai ar of grettare quantite than ouris ar, we wold be glaid thairof for seing the peax sa establisit, betuix us, oure realmes, and subjects, and oure myndis joynit in ane, will to the indissoluble observationn thairof, we think that mutuale connectionn and interchange suld be had amange us of sic thingis as wer profittable or plesand to athir of us, but the grete hurt of ony of us, our realmes, or comonn wele thairof, as to the proximate of oure blude and vicinite of oure cuntreis dois apertene; and at your desire we sal be reddy to do siclike quhen ever it pleiss you to call; thairfore Right excellent, Richt hie and mychty prince, our derrest uncle and bruther, we pray God have evir in his keping. Subscrunt with our hand, and given under oure signete, at Edinburgh, the xxix day of December, and of oure regnne the xxii year.

"Yor. lovying bruther and nephe,

L. S. "JAMES REX."

(Superscription.)

"To the richt excellent, Richt hie and mychty prince, oure derrest uncle and bruther, the King of Ingland, etc."

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*** The asterisks denote that the MS. is damaged in those places, owing to its having been folded.

*Remarks on the Doctrine that* "DEAR PROVISIONS *make* CHEAP LABOUR."

*To the Editor.*

SIR,

I Am one of those useful, tho' despised beings, who earn my bread by the sweat of my brow, sometimes in quality of a barnman, sometimes of a dyker, &c. &c. and have had enough ado to keep the boat's head in the wind, these fifty years I have lived in the world. Poor, however, as I am, I have long had a share of your useful miscellany, which I read with great attention. In that of September last, p. 666, I see a proposition advanced by *Kuricola*, which I conceive to be not only repugnant to truth, but injurious to me and the other knights of the *spade* and *flail*, viz. that dear provisions make cheap labour, and cheap provisions dear labour.

As the best way of refuting a false proposition, is to proceed with it as if it were a true one, I shall here take that method, and deduce the following natural and incontrovertible inferences, I believe I should have called them corollaries.

1*mo*. Provisions are much dearer than they were a century ago, therefore labour is at present much cheaper than it was a century ago. Quod erat demonstrandum.

2*do*. Half a dozen centuries ago labour was much lower than at present, therefore provisions must at that period have been much higher than now. Quod erat demonstrandum.

3*tio*. In Russia, Sweden, &c. Provisions are much cheaper than in Bri-

Britain, and therefore the price of labour is much higher there than here. Quod erat demonstrandum.

4*to*. As every increase in the price of provision causes a proportional decrease in the value of labour, we see the labourer who, two centuries ago, earned 2d. per day now earning only 1-20th part of that sum. Quod erat demonstrandum.

I shall, in the next place, advert to the proofs adduced in support of this wonderful hypothesis, viz. the reduction which took place in the price of labour in 1799 and 1800. A recurrence to these unfortunate and disastrous years does little credit to Ruricola's head, and far less to his heart. Unfavourable seasons, and calamitous events, have sometimes occurred, which, by raising the price of provisions to an exorbitant pitch, have for a short time totally unhinged the balance, and destroyed the just and equitable reciprocal proportion which naturally exists betwixt labour and subsistence.

This was remarkably the case in the years above mentioned. The grim tyrant, *famine*, was then marching across the land with terrific strides, and the question among us labourers was not, whether we could then obtain a reasonable remuneration for our labour, but whether we could by any possible means preserve our lives till the arrival of better times. Similar instances are numerous in the page of history. At the siege of Samaria, Ruricola might have made his fortune by a dead horse, and have had the whole inhabitants work a month to him for a firlot of Pigeon's dung. These were the glorious times indeed for selling provisions, or hiring servants, but the very unfittest in the annals of mankind, for regulating the reciprocal ratio betwixt the value of labour and subsistence. During the calamitous years above mentioned, every other consideration was sacrificed by us labourers to that of preserving our lives, and the farmers being in possession of the one thing needful, made us work to them for something less than our meat. Still I maintain, that from the distressful and humiliating conditions which, from the pressure of the crisis we were obliged to accept, no other fair inference can be drawn, than that a man will submit to any thing rather than starve. There is more truth in the generality of our adages, than a superficial glance can at first sight discover. Ruricola himself says, "Another notion is very prevalent among us, but still worse founded, viz. that *cheap provisions make cheap labour*." He further tells us, that the very reverse is the case, notwithstanding which, the whole manufacturing interest believe in it as implicitly as in any other article in the creed, and I shall add, they have as good a right, the one as well as the other being founded on the basis of incontrovertible truth.

A day labourer is the most useful of all animals. Even the horse cannot compete with him. Without him the operations of the world could not be carried on. But it is equally true, that without necessary food he could perform no operation at all. 6½ bolls of meal are reckoned necessary to make water brose for him a twelvemonth. This, in ordinary seasons, might cost about L.5. In 1800 it would have cost L.15. Thus the single article of a servant's meal cost triple its ordinary amount. As this quantum sufficit cannot be dispensed with, the labourer must have it cost what it will, and had the prices of 1800 become stationary and permanent, the price of labour must have risen in the same ratio. Fortunately the pressure was only temporary, and things naturally reverted to their former equilibrium. An increase in the value of labour as inseparably follows an increase in

the value of subsistence, as the shadow follows the substance. Had this not been the case, there would have been neither weaving, nor sailing, nor ploughing in Britain these hundred years. A man working for 3d. a-day and paying 3s. for a peck of meal, would have been a phenomenon indeed.

Ruricola seems totally to have mistaken the merits of the year 1800, and if he will listen to me, I will explain the mystery. Though a rise in the price of provisions is inseparably followed by a rise in the price of labour, yet the former always takes the lead, and the latter follows sometimes at more or less distance. The effect must be preceded by the cause. The year 1800 caused an immense rise in the value of subsistence, which would necessarily have been followed by a rise in the value of labour, but before this natural effect could take place, general famine marched off, and victual reached its former level. The year 1800 therefore lasted long enough to produce the cause; but this cause being only temporary, disappeared before the effect could possibly follow. I am, Sir,

Yours, &c.

*An Angus Barnman.*

*Brose-hall,*
*10th March*, 1805.

P. S. Quæritur. If a rise in the price of provisions has a natural tendency to depress the value of labour, by what means has it come to pass that the price of labour is at present higher than it was a thousand years ago?

## *On certain* Errata *in the* Scots Magazine.

*To the Editor.*

SIR,

THOUGH your miscellany be in general conducted with comparative correctness; yet, in perusing its contents for some years past, I find that you are not, more than your neighbours, free from errors of the press. These errors, when no one can mistake your meaning, or when it makes it nonsense, might be passed over in silence; but when they involve either facts or persons, may have the effect of misleading posterity when turning over your Magazine for long past occurrences. This is more likely to be done, as you very seldom correct your mistakes by an *Errata*. Perhaps you think this unnecessary, as exposing your blunders to persons who would not otherwise observe them; but I would recommend the practice to you as the best and only apology you can make to the public. As an instance of your inaccuracy, on a late occasion, you inserted a Royal proclamation for a Public National *Feast*; and though I have paid particular attention to the times and the manners since that period, I have never observed that it took place. Nay, from the pressure of war, and the high price of provisions, I thought with myself that it was a very improper time for such an entertainment taking place. On reading farther down, however, I found it was a thing the very reverse of what you held it out to be; and instead of being regaled with a *feast*, we were enjoined to *fast*.

But, Mr Editor, this is not the only error you have committed; in comparison with others, it is slight and trivial. You gave notice, not long ago, of a sermon to be preached for the *sins of the clergy*. Now, Sir, though that respectable body have, no doubt, failings like other men;

yet

yet I cannot think that a sermon would have been appointed to be preached for their *sins*, as being greater than the bulk of their congregation's. Sir, let me tell you, you should be very cautious in throwing out reflections against either religion or its ministers; as, in this age of infidelity, it may give too much occasion to the ignorant and the prejudiced, to speak lightly of these serious matters.

In another place, Sir, you mention, that a certain honourable gentleman had lost his *seal* in the House of Commons. Did you mean, Sir, by that paragraph, to insinuate that there were any pick-pockets in that august assembly; or, do you suppose, if there had been any such, they would not have taken the watch also? In consulting contemporary magazines for the truth of this assertion, I found, that instead of *seal* it should have been *seat*.

On another occasion, Sir, you gave us what you were pleased to call a collection of *stale papers*; although the papers which you call by this name were highly interesting, and regarded a question of peace and war. Many were disposed to think, by seeing the title affixed to this communication, that you were hazarding a reflection against his Majesty's ministers; or satirizing their delay in not producing them sooner for the satisfaction of the public. The title should have been, if not a wilful error of yours, Mr Editor, *State Papers*. I am disposed, for my own part, however, to think that it was a wilful mistake; for, in the same magazine, in notifying the departure of a fleet, destined for some important expedition, you said it would *fail* in a few weeks. Sir, these errors are not trifling, they may have the worst influence in Society, by leading people astray in their opinions; and by encouraging many to look up to those who guide the state with too little respect.

In one of your paragraphs announcing the marriage of a person of distinguished rank, you said he set out for his seat in the country, to solace himself with the *toys* of matrimony. Sir, this error was a dangerous one, and though your bachelors may sometimes sneer and jest at this happy state, yet, Sir, let me tell you, the wisest nations have always encouraged marriage, for the best of moral and political purposes. I am afraid you yourself, Sir, have not entered into this holy state, else you would not have, likewise, in addition to the foregoing, inserted a new method of managing domestic *fools*. Sir, this alarmed not a few husbands, and surprised myself not a little, till, on reading a little farther, I found that it should have been *fowls*.

Sir, I have seen you make the *chief* of the government in India, the *thief* of the government. This was a serious charge; but from the known character of the governor at that time, every person disregarded your insinuation; and from well-attested facts we know, that the affairs in India are not conducted on a worse footing than formerly.

In a late case, decided before an illustrious court, you made two respectable judges compare *noses* instead of *notes*; and when the blaze of patriotism burst out at the beginning of the present war, and all ranks were arming, you said, that an honourable person had left the House of Commons and was gone to the *d—l* with his regiment. I suppose in this case some of your letters in the word alluded to had been left out; but although some penetrating people might read *drill*, yet many others would take it up in a very different sense.

Sir, It would be endless to enumerate all the mistakes which you have committed. Enough I trust have been pointed out, to show you the danger of passing these public

errors

errors without a public acknowledgement; and the bad effects they may have among those who have neither time nor inclination to investigate the truth. What must the ignorant think of the Parliament voting a supply for 95,000 *tailors*, instead of *sailors!* a beautiful country, covered for hundreds of miles with the finest *ordure*, instead of *verdure!* and your noticing a charitable provision for the wives and children of soldiers, in which you entreat the humane to come forward and contribute their *mice*.

Hoping, Sir, that you will pay more attention to these things in future, I am,

With much respect,
Yours, &c. *S.*

## *On the* IMPROVEMENTS *and* PUBLIC BUILDINGS *of* EDINBURGH.

*To the Editor.*

SIR,

SINCE you thought my former communication worthy of insertion in your valuable miscellany, I shall now resume the subject, referring to my former letter for preliminaries.

What I shall first take notice of at present is our truly venerable *High Church*, or, to speak more properly, *Saint Giles's*. Few people will contemplate this as it now stands, without being thankful that the odious Luckenbooths are removed; and as few without praying that the remaining huge pile of building, nearest to the high street were speedily removed also. This we hope will soon be the case, since there seems to be no good reason that it should not. We would have noticed the other remaining building, the *Prison*, in a similar manner; but are aware of the objection, that the old prison cannot be pulled down, until the new one is built.

But supposing those prefatory matters, which must occur to every person, to be got over; I now come to a matter of much greater importance and originality:—The front towards the north of the whole pile of building which composes the different churches, in its present state is gloomy, irregular, dirty, and awkward, in a very great degree; but in my humble opinion might be remedied so effectually, at a very moderate expence, as to constitute one of the principal ornaments of our city, and this too in one of its principal parts. And the way in which I would propose to do this, would be by following the same plan as has been done with many of the principal Gothic buildings in England; viz. getting some person of eminent skill in Gothic architecture, to furnish a plan for dressing up the whole; such a man, for instance, as Mr Wyatt, or perhaps even Mr Carr, of York. One hundred pounds, perhaps, to the first of these gentlemen, who is undoubtedly the most celebrated artist in this line of any at present in the Island, I am confident would procure a plan of embellishment, which at a very moderate expence would render St Giles's of Edinburgh one of the most respectable-looking Gothic churches which we have, and a most beautiful addition to the grandeur of the appearance of our fine high street.

Indeed were the different paltry small shops removed which are every way attached to the Church, in a manner so *sacrilegious* I would almost say—the building itself brushed up,—and the windows all neatly new-glazed with uniform lozenge-cut glass, the building would make a won-

wonderfully decent appearance. But the plan of embellishment I have hinted at would be the grand matter. Let any person consider what Mr W. has lately done on the Cathedral of Durham, and then he may be able to judge of what might be done on St Giles's; and since the insides of the different Churches have been lately repaired in so elegant and judicious a manner, surely it were to be wished that their exterior appearance should be made somewhat decent at least; which some of them cannot be said to be at present. Besides, what we are now speaking of, is, in fact, the High Church of Scotland, and consequently ought to be put into suitable condition.

It is impossible to quit this subject without expressing a wish that the remaining useless and ruinous buildings near the Council Chamber were speedily pulled down also—we have great hopes of that fine opening being some day converted to admirable and useful purposes. I add no more at present, but remain,

SIR,

Your constant reader,

*Censor Minutiarum.*

## Celestial Phenomena *for May* 1805.

*Wednesday, May 1st.*

THE *third* satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow at 8 minutes and 19 seconds after 11 o'clock in the evening, and after continuing eclipsed for the space of $1^h..9'..19''$, it will emerge from the shadow of the planet at 17 minutes and 38 seconds after one o'clock next morning.

While the third satellite is eclipsed, the *second* will immerge into the shadow of Jupiter at 19 minutes and 19 seconds after 12 o'clock in the evening.

*Thursday, May 2d.*

The *first* satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow at 12 minutes and 12 seconds after 10 o'clock in the evening.

About half an hour after this immersion the *second* and *third* satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the eastern side of the planet, the fourth is then situated on the same side at a greater distance.

*Friday, May 3d.*

About a quarter of an hour before 11 o'clock in the evening the *first* and *second* satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the right hand of the planet, the third and fourth are situated on the other side, the fourth being farthest from Jupiter.

*Saturday, May 4th.*

The planet Mars will be in quadrature with the sun at 6 o'clock in the morning, and the difference of their longitudes will be exactly three signs.

*Monday, May 6th.*

The moon will eclipse $\pi$ *Leonis*, a star of the 4th magnitude, situated in the fore leg of the Lion, in longitude $4^s..26^o..36'..5''$ and latitude $3^o..55'..20''$ south. The star will immerge behind the obscure limb of the moon at 39 minutes after 7 o'clock in the evening, at which time it is situated about $9\frac{1}{2}$ minutes to the south of the moon's centre; and after continuing eclipsed for the space of $1^h..7'$ the star will emerge from behind the enlightened limb of the moon at 46 minutes after 8 o'clock in the evening, when it is placed about $2\frac{1}{2}$ minutes south of the moon's centre. At the time of this occultation the enenlightened is to the obscure part of the moon's disc as 7.145 to 4.855. The moon's horizontal parallax will be $58'..5''$, her horizontal semidiameter $15'..49'$. and the time of her southing $6^h..48'$.

*Tuesday, May 7th.*

The planet Saturn is at present situated in longitude $6^s..10^o..27'..13''$ and

and latitude 2°..43′ south. His declination is 1°..39′, and he souths about 40 minutes after 9 o'clock in the evening.

*Wednesday, May 8th.*

The planet Mercury will be stationary in longitude 2ˢ..2°..18′..49″.

*Thursday, May 9th.*

The *second* satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow at 52 minutes after 2 o'clock in the morning.

On the same day, about 5 minutes and 57 seconds after 3 o'clock in the morning, the *third* satellite will immerge into the shadow of Jupiter.

On the same day, the *first* satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow at 5 minutes and 44 seconds after 12 o'clock in the evening.

*Saturday May 11th.*

The Georgium Sidus is at present situated in longitude 6ˢ..17°.. 38′..13″, and latitude 39 minutes north. Its declination is 6°..20′..5″ south, and it souths at 50 minutes after 9 o'clock in the evening.

*Thursday, May 16th.*

The Moon will eclipse λ *Sagittarii*; a star of the 4th magnitude, situated in the bow of the Archer, in longitude 9ˢ..3°..36′..25″, and latitude 2°.. 5′..31″ south. The star will immerge behind the enlightened limb of the moon at 30 minutes after 12 o'clock in the evening, when it is placed about 2¾ minutes to the North of the Moon's centre. After remaining eclipsed for 1°..23′, the star will emerge from behind the obscure limb of the Moon at 53 minutes after one o'clock next morning, at which time it is situated about 30 seconds to the North of the Moon's center. About the middle of this occultation the enlightened is to the obscure part of the Moon's disc, as 10.728 to 1.272. The Moon's horizonta parallax is then 54′..10″, her horizontal diameter 29′..32″, and the time of her southing 2ʰ..45′.

*Friday, May 17th.*

At 59 minutes and 54 seconds after one o'clock in the morning the first satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow.

On the same day, a little before 11 o'clock in the evening, the second and fourth satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the Eastern side of his disc.

*Sunday, May 19th.*

The planet Mercury will arrive at his inferior conjunction with the Sun at 5 minutes after 5 o'clock in the evening.

*Tuesday, May 21st.*

The Sun will enter the sign Gemini at 54 minutes after one o'clock in the afternoon, and his longitude will then be *two* signs.

*Thursday, May 23d.*

About 47 minutes after two o'clock in the morning the planet Jupiter will be in opposition to the Sun. The longitude of the Sun being then 2ˢ..2°..23′..23″, that of Jupiter will be 8ˢ..2°..23′..23″, his latitude is then 58′..43″ north, and he will come to the meridian at 35 minutes after 11 o'clock in the evening.

*Saturday, May 25th.*

The *first* satellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his shadow at 32 minutes and 2 seconds after 12 o'clock in the evening.

*Sunday, May 26th.*

About 33 minutes and 31 seconds after 11 o'clock in the evening, the *second* satellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his shadow.

*Monday, May 27th.*

The planet Venus will arrive at her superior conjunction with the Sun at 47 minutes after 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

*Thursday, May 30th.*

The planet Jupiter will be in conjunction

junction with β *Scorpionis*, a star of the second magnitude, situated in longitude 8ˢ..0°..28′..29″, the latitude of Jupiter being 58′..29″ North, and that of β *Scorpionis* 1°..2′..18″ North; the nearest approach of their centers will be 3′..49″, and the planet will pass to the south of the star.

*Murrayfield*, *April* 25. 1805. } *D. B.*

*Memoirs of the Progress of* MANUFACTURES, CHEMISTRY, SCIENCE, *and the* FINE ARTS.

THE following new and simple process for separating gold and silver from the baser metals, has been communicated to the Society of Arts by Dr DYCE of Aberdeen. Flatten the impure, or compound metal, so as to expose as great a surface as possible, and having cut it into small pieces, put the whole into a crucible, along with two parts of powdered manganese. When the contents of the crucible are fused, remove it from the fire, and having allowed it to cool, the mixture will be found converted into a brownish powder or oxide. Having mixed this powder with an equal proportion of pounded glass, submit it, in a crucible, to a heat sufficient for its fusion, and the perfect metals will be found at the bottom in a state of extreme purity.

The magnetical pyrites, a species of martial pyrites, which has the remarkable property of strong magnetic polarity, has been chemically examined by Mr Hatchett, F. R. S. He wished to determine whether it is a sulphurate of iron inherently endowed with the magnetical property, or a sulphurate in which particles of the ordinary magnetical iron ore are simply, but minutely interspersed. The first of these conjectures he found to be true, and concluded in general, from his experiments, that iron, when combined with a considerable portion of sulphur, is not only capable of receiving the magnetic property, but is thereby enabled to retain it, and thus becomes a complete magnet:—that iron, combined with 46 per cent. of sulphur, is capable of being taken up by a magnet, whilst iron combined with 52 per cent. or more, of sulphur, (altho' likewise in the metallic state) does not sensibly effect the magnetic needle;—and that the capacity of iron for magnetic action is probably destroyed by a certain proportion of sulphur, whose effects, tho' little sensible at 46 per cent. are absolute in this distinction of magnetic influence before it amounts to 52.—100 grains of the magnetical pyrites is composed of 36.50 grains of sulphur, and 63.50 of iron; and its specific gravity at 65° of Fahrenheit is 4518.

It appears from the experiments of Sir JOSEPH BANKS on the blight in corn, that though the seeds of blighted corn afford but little flour, they are as good for sowing as the plumpest samples; and that the flour in the shrivelled grain is amply sufficient to nourish the minute plants till they take root. A considerable expence therefore will be saved by adopting this practice, as three bushels of blighted corn will go as far as four bushels of large grain. These sentiments, however, have been controverted by very able agriculturists.

Mr BIDDLE of Birmingham has ascertained the specific gravity of mercury in a solid state to be 15.612, at about 40 degrees below zero in Fahrenheit's scale; while the same mercury in a fluid state had the specific gravity 13.545, when the thermometer stood at 47 degrees above zero.

By means of the mechanism for the direction of aerostatic machines, invented by Professor DANZEL of Ham-

Hamburgh, he is said to have obtained a progress, in a right line of twelve feet per second, or 3 leagues per hour, tho' he did not bring more than half his means into action. The principles of this important invention will be found in his pamphlet, entitled, "Basis of the Mechanism for the direction of aerostatic Machines."

An improved mill, for grinding painters' colours, has been invented by Mr James Rawlinson, of Derby. It prevents the operator from inhaling the noxious and poisonous volatile parts of the paint, and grinds the colours much quicker and finer than any method hitherto adopted. The inventor was rewarded by the Society of Arts, in whose transactions, for 1804, a farther account of it will be found.

A new and accurate method of banking the balance of a time-keeper has been invented by Mr W. Hardy of Islington. Various methods have been employed for stopping the balance at certain limits beyond its natural arch of vibration; but they were so complicated, when compared with the method of Mr Hardy, that the time-keeper was often as much injured by them as if it had not been banked at all. The inventor was rewarded with 30 guineas by the Society of Arts, in whose memoirs, for 1804, a fuller description of the invention will be found.

M. Richter, who has been employed in examining the nature of nichel, asserts that it is more susceptible of attraction by the magnet than iron. He found, that in the purest state in which it has been hitherto obtained, it contains a great deal of copper; and he has discovered a sure method of freeing it from that metal, which is not yet made public. Nichel, in a pure state, is exceedingly malleable, and almost as brilliant as silver.

Klaproth has found, that solutions of metallic oxides in alkalies are as easily precipitated in the metallic state, by other metals soluble in the same salts, and likewise by phosphorus, as metallic solutions are.

While Bucholz was examining Gehlen's method of separating iron and manganese by the aid of succinate of potash, he found that succinate of iron oxidated at a *minimum*, is entirely decomposed by boiling it with distilled water, so that the water dissolves the acid with an inappreciable quantity of oxide.

The celebrated Volta is said to have lately constructed different piles composed merely of saline substances of a different nature, with solutions of which he impregnated discs of bones.

Brugnatelli has lately applied Galvanism to the gilding of medals. He gilt, in a complete manner, two large silver ones, by bringing them into communication, by means of a steel wire, with the negative pole of a Voltaic pile, and keeping them, one after the other, immersed in ammoniuret of gold, newly made, and well saturated.

M. Piazzi of Palermo, the discoverer of one of the new planets, states in a letter to Delalande, that he has observed a change of one, two, or three seconds in the fixed stars; according to the situation of the earth in its orbit. If the annual parallax of the fixed stars really amounts to 3 seconds, it thence follows that their distance is not seven millions of millions of leagues. We are apt, however, to suspect the accuracy of the preceding statement, particularly when we consider that the celebrated Dr Bradley, with the aid of the most accurate instruments, was not able to discover a parallax, even of *one* second.

*Murrayfield, April* 25. 1805. } D. B.

*Historical*

*(Continued from p. 179.)*

1. DURING the reign of Constantine, this order first made its appearance. "Among the Christians there was a sect of Ascetics, who obeyed and abused the precepts of the gospel, were inspired by the savage enthusiasm which represent man as a criminal, and God as a tyrant." Whether it was that they wished to imitate the severe virtues of the Pythagorean school, or blended with such sentiments a mistaken interpretation of some texts of scripture, it is certain, that the most abstemious stoic, the gravest Pythagorean, or the most churlish cynic, never outstripped them in their enthusiastic career. While the balance yet trembled between the preponderancy of Christianity and Paganism, the hope of victory, and fear of disgrace, kept every one within the bounds of reason and decency. But when the former obtained the preference, and began to bask in the sunshine of prosperity, these rigid Ascetics, perhaps offended at living in peace, fled from a profane and degenerate world to perpetual solitude and religious society. They aimed at treading in the footsteps of the prophets who had retired to the desert, without considering their motives, or the necessity which urged them to such a measure. Egypt, the fruitful parent of superstition, afforded the first examples of the monastic life. The original and intrepid fanaticism of Antony, an illiterate youth of the lower parts of Thebais, drew the attention of the indolent natives. His well-tried enthusiasm and superior sanctity had a powerful effect upon the ignorant minds of the vulgar. "Prolific colonies of monks multiplied, with rapid encrease, on the sands of Lybia, among the rocks of Thebais, and in the cities of the Nile." Like the first plagues of the Egyptians, they darkened all the land, and spread their baleful influence over every neighbouring country. Athanasius, the guest and friend of Antony, first carried the seeds of the monastic institution to Rome. Among the motley and degenerate crouds of Romans, it soon struck a deep root, and shot up with astonishing luxuriance. The purity of some, the disgust of others, gave it a cordial reception; and while they retired from the world to converse with heaven, the venom of envy and disappointed ambition rankled in their hearts. Some, I doubt not, embraced it, through conviction; but the number of these must have been but few: it, however, opened an asylum, not only to such as were disgusted with the world, but also to those whose crimes called for vengeance from the laws which they had broken. The female mind, which in general is devoid of that firmness and stedfast resolution ever necessary to guard it safe in great and uncommon events, listened with avidity and enthusiastic raptnre to the tale of superstition. Mothers and virgins forgot or despised the laws of nature; they deserted their husbands to become the spouses of heaven; they forsook their children to become the guardians of a race rejected by the world; and their prevailing foibles might be flattered, by the applause which their devotion, or apathy, or liberality, or beauty, might excite." The monks plied, with incessant importunity, the rich and liberal widows of Rome, to leave, in their declining years, the care of earthly objects to others who had experienced less of their vanity, and to devote their lives and their possessions to the service of God and

Religion. And too frequently their eloquence was successful. In a short time, the original path of the first devoted monks was forgotten. Few, very few, can patiently endure poverty, and meanness, while they behold others enjoying plenty and respect. The keen eye of avarice can discover means to suit every purpose and watch every event that may be turned to profit: even into the gloomy cells of the monks it found its way, while ambition aspired at a higher flight in proportion as its wings were concealed under the dark shade of hypocritical humility. To a few enthusiastic monks, of no ambition and of no abilities, that degraded state which mortified the body for the safety of the soul, which shut out the light of nature from their fastidious eyes, might appear eligible and necessary; but the influx of wealth, the hope of preferment, and the splendor of the patriarchal throne, stimulated the sullen minds of by far the greatest part, to grasp at pleasures, which Antony and Stelites would have beheld with sovereign contempt. In proportion to the increase of wealth and honours, new swarms of monks spread themselves thro' every region of Asia and Europe. Theirs was the traffic of legends and tales which they diffused among the wondering and stupid multitude, and wherever they fixed their abode the genius of superstition accompanied them.

The indulgence of leaving their convents and again mingling with the world, which was at first granted to the monks, was afterwards denied them. They were obliged to remain within the precincts of their cell, nor durst they go abroad without an attendant as a spy upon their words and actions. The slightest offence which they might commit was corrected by disgrace or confinement, extraordinary fasts, or bloody flagellation; disobedience, murmuring, or delay, were ranked in the catalogue of the most heinous crimes. Their faith and patience were exercised by tasks of a most extravagant and impracticable nature; and their zeal and willingness to obey was estimated by the perpetration of crimes which nature shudders to relate. The freedom of the mind, the source of every generous and rational sentiment, was destroyed by the habits of credulity and submission; and the monk, contracting the vices of a slave, devoutly followed the faith and passions of his ecclesiastical superiour. It would be superfluous to give a detail of their manner, occupation, dress, and superstition.

They were all extravagant, and rose, or sunk, in equal extremes, from the natural dispositions of the human mind. The solitude and the manner in which they lived encreased their original passions, which were all concealed under the appearance of devotion. "They assembled in the evening, and were awakened in the night for the public worship of the monastery. The precise moment was determined by the stars, which are seldom clouded in the serene sky of Egypt; and a rustic horn or trumpet, the signal of devotion, twice interrupted the vast silence of the desert. Even sleep, the last refuge of the unhappy, was rigorously measured. The vacant hours of the monk rolled heavily along without business or pleasure: he might chide the tardy course of the sun, which left him to his own tormenting thoughts; and secretly curse the unseasonable signal which, in the night, awaked him from the dream of ideal pleasures." Their general character may be summed up in a word. A cruel and unfeeling temper has distinguished the monks of every age, with a very few exceptions; they have invented and propagated the most glaring superstitions; they were born to be useful to society, but became its greatest nuisance.

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2. During the first century of the Christian æra the religion of Christ remained vigorous and entire: neither its doctrines nor its simple and unostentatious forms were clouded by sophistry or perverted by imagination. Though no definite rules of church-government had been given by Christ and his apostles, it was evident that Christianity could not remain untainted if established upon the model of the Pagan or Jewish worship: It is strongly marked with the glowing and amiable lines of humility and charity, which must entirely disappear when confounded with the glaring parade of empty ornaments. Nor is the worship of saints or angels ever specified by the most distant or ambiguous authority, in either the Old or New Testament. No marks of it can be traced among those who were conversant with the immediate disciples of our Saviour: On the contrary, we find the most marked disapprobation given to a practice, which alienates the mind from the worship of the Supreme, and opens a wide field for deception and every species of Priest craft and religious tyranny: These were the dogmas of a later age, an age of political and religious darkness, when mankind had lost the substance of every thing great and good, and busied themselves in hunting after the varying and fleeting shadow.

Mosheim has attributed the rise and prevalence of ceremonies to the six following causes: 1. A desire to enlarge the borders of the church. 2. To refute calumnies and reproaches. 3. The abuse of Jewish rites. 4. The imitation of the heathen mysteries. 5. The symbolical manner of teaching among the Eastern nations. 6. Prejudices of converted Jews and Gentiles. This account is sufficiently authorised and exact, and may give sufficient information to those who are acquainted with the religious and political history of the times and people. In the motley assembly of learned and unlearned, of Jewish proselytes and heathen converts, a diversity of sentiments would prevail, and each would look for something similar to that form of worship in which he had been educated. To accommodate themselves and their religion to the different tastes of Jews and Gentiles, the Christian ministers gradually adopted the least exceptionable of the numerous rites of their adversaries, and thus allured them by a concession so flattering to their pride and dogmatic opinions. The rites and ceremonies of worship became pompous and splendid; the churches were adorned not only with rich offerings, but with the most exquisite works in painting and sculpture which the artists of those times were capable of executing. The images of saints and martyrs, which were originally intended to inspire the multitude with devotion, were soon prostituted to public adoration, and were supplicated by an ignorant people whose senses were their only guides. At the head of this triumphant host was placed the image of the Virgin, a privilege which she has uniformly and constantly retained, amidst the swarms of upstarts, which were called, as it were, by enchantment from every corner of heaven and earth. When once the practice is begun, it soon becomes general; the hopes of mankind are ever on the wing, and the tale of superstition which is told today spreads with rapid increase before to morrow.

It cannot be thought strange that, in such a degenerate age, the scriptures should be neglected: As the standard of faith and rule of the church, they were disregarded: but the sublime doctrines which they contained, were employed as vehicles to waft the wild imaginations of mankind beyond the bounds of the visible creation, to the inmost abodes of heaven itself. The greedy ear of

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the populace drank in the report of visions and miracles with insatiable avidity, and on such tottering foundations built the vast fabric of their Catholic belief. The industrious priests presumed to pry into the invisible world, and thus their astonishing ignorance levelled the throne of the Deity and the hierarchies of heaven to the medium of their own shallow conceptions, reduced the system of the universe under the controlling power of every saint, and established the distinction between virtue and vice by the measure and extent of implicit belief. "They thought that whatever might be the condition of vulgar souls, during the long interval between the dissolution and the resurrection of their bodies, it was evident, that superior spirits did not consume that portion of their existence in silent and inglorious repose." They were supposed to enjoy a superior state of felicity, to have their intellectual faculties enlarged beyond the conception of mortals, and to be invested with sufficient power to hear and answer their prayers.

As mankind began to respect and look up to saints and martyrs with the confidence and hope of effectual assistance in every difficulty, they neglected the worship of the Supreme Being, his altars were forsaken, his name almost forgotten, or only mentioned in the heat of uncharitable dissension, or vainly usurped to mark the invisible distinction between the opinions of warring enthusiasts. Had they contented themselves with the belief that the spirits of the illustrious dead could hear and assist them, they would have been less culpable. But supposing that every part of them, mortal as well as immortal, was endowed with a salutary power, that the remote or fanciful resemblance could entice the spirit to inhabit an empty shade, that any part of their body, though mouldering in corruption and offensive to the sense, could work a miracle, was extravagant in the extreme, and shewed in what a labyrinth of error mankind delighted to wander. The barbarous nations of Europe were soon overspread with the disease. "To Rome, says an elegant historian, where every precious relic was kept, they came in vast crouds. Pilgrimages thither were represented as the most meritorious acts of devotion. Not only noblemen and ladies of rank undertook this tedious journey; but kings themselves abdicating their thrones, sought for a secure passport to heaven at the feet of the Roman pontiff. New reliques, perpetually sent from that endless mint of superstition, and magnified by lying miracles, operated on the astonished mind of the multitude." The trade soon became gainful; the deception was easy; and avarice and ambition, and the love of pleasure, the greatest scourges of the human mind, combined their united efforts to deceive.

(*To be concluded in our next.*)

## *On the* PLEASURES *of* IMAGINATION, *with Remarks on the Poetry of Rude Nations.*

MAN is distinguished from the other inhabitants of this globe by the superior extent of his power, and the wider range of his pleasures. His power is exerted upon all the forms of existence both animated and inert. In the execution of his multifarious designs he has ransacked the bowels of the earth and the depths of the ocean; rendering subservient to his purposes every possible combination of qualities and every imaginable configuration of matter. Nor is his dominion over the animated beings with which Nature teems, less complete, than over the in-

inanimate objects which she exhibits to his view. The uniformity of those instincts, which direct the actions of the brutes, has subjected them to the bondage of man, who, in one shape or another, has forced them all either to relieve his necessities or minister to his pleasures. The fiercest he has tamed, the swiftest he has caught, and few species have eluded his research, of all which inhabit the earth, the air, or the ocean. Those animals which are best suited to his purposes, by the wise appointment of Providence, most readily acquiesce in his dominion; and those which disdain to be the instruments of his will, he has rendered the subjects of his curiosity or the victims of his appetite.

Nor are the sources of pleasure inherent in the constitution of man, less wonderful than the constituents of his power. The inferior animals, so far as we can observe, have few other pleasures than those immediately subservient to the support of the individual and the propagation of the species. Both these pleasures man possesses in common with the brutes; but it is plainly the intention of nature, and consequently the dictate of reason, that the enjoyment of them should occupy but a small portion of his time. Besides, that they are enjoyed in common with the brutes (a consideration which on minds of a delicate structure is not unattended with influence) and that we daily observe the pernicious effects which result from their excessive indulgence, there may be drawn, in support of the same conclusion, a very powerful argument *a priori* from the circumstances in which man is placed and culithe pear advantages he enjoys. The appetites of the inferior animals are directed to certain important ends, for the attainment of which there is no provision in the other principles of their constitution, and without the operation of which, the individual must perish and the species become extinct. Allowing the latter part of this observation to be strictly applicable to man, there here occurs to our notice another part of his constitution, which renders his situation in every respect totally different from that of the brutes. That faculty which forms the distinguishing characteristic of his nature, and the fountain from which his boasted superiority flows, exhibits to him in the clearest point of view, at once, the ends which his animal appetites are intended to serve, the limits within which nature has circumscribed them in the case of the brutes, and even certain advantages with respect to the appetites themselves which belong exclusively to the rational nature. An excessive indulgence therefore of our animal propensities is to be shunned by every being invested with the privilege of reason, not only as the forerunner of the greatest ills which embitter the cup of humanity, but as a flagrant violation of the laws of nature, and an unpardonable abuse of her most precious benefits.

Actuated by these motives, or influenced by that native sense of dignity which the Almighty Creator has implanted in the human breast, a great proportion of mankind have in all ages turned with disgust from the pleasures of sense, and employed their leisure in pleasures more congenial to their feelings and occupations more worthy of their endowments. In looking round for something to fill up the hours of amusement and relaxation, their attention would undoubtedly be first arrested by the charms of external nature. These would call forth their torpid affections, and awaken the energies which slumbered in their hearts. It is impossible to conceive an age or a nation, in which the shepherd would not be attracted by the majesty of the rising, or the splendour of the

setting

setting sun; in which the peasant could refrain from dwelling with pleasing astonishment on the celestial concave, studded with resplendent orbs; in which the traveller could behold, without emotion, the billows of a raging, or the glassy surface of a tranquil ocean; or could follow, without enthusiasm, the meandrings of a gentle stream, diffusing plenty, beauty, and enchantment thro' a flowery vale.

History has recorded no age in which these pleasures were totally unfelt, and to suppose that there exists a heart totally insensible to them would be an insult upon humanity. There are in every mind the seeds of a power (called by Pneumatologists the Power of Imagination) from which they proceed; and they as necessarily result from the operation of this power as resentment from injury on the perception of pleasure from the gratification of appetite.

It is in early youth that the workings of this power are most discernible, and that we are most frequently disposed to indulge the romantic temper which it inspires. There is an infancy in the progress of nations as well as in the growth of individuals; and during these corresponding periods of their existence, the influence of imagination upon the one, in creating a sensibility to the charms of nature, is strikingly analogous to what we observe upon the other. The works of the early poets of all nations abound in the most picturesque descriptions of natural scenery, in the most vivid allusions to the grand objects of the universe, and the most glowing metaphors borrowed from those beautiful and sublime phenomena of which they observed around them a diversified and uninterrupted succession. This circumstance gives to all such compositions an air of original genius and luxuriant fancy, and diffuses over them a fascinating charm, of which we sometimes lament the absence, in the more refined productions of a classical age.

It has been alledged, that this luxuriance of fancy, which is by some so much admired in the few ancient poems which have reached our times, and in the early productions of all nations, is nothing more than the offspring of unbridled passion, and a scanty vocabulary. This may be a sufficient explanation of that figurative and metaphorical language which abounds in the impassioned harangues of an American chief, and in the animated though uncouth productions of the older Scandinavian bards; but will by no means account for the superiority of *some* favoured authors; whose beauties glimmer through all the mist of ignorance and rudeness by which they are enveloped; and still less for the unrivalled pre-eminence of a few, whose works, even in this enlightened age, regulate the taste, and command the admiration of the world. Imagination is most lively both in nations and individuals during the period of their youth, and predominates in both after the lapse of this period, till suppressed by the maturity of judgement, or refined by the delicacy of taste.

If it be true, (and the contrary I believe has never been established,) that the quantity of genius in the world at any one time is always nearly equal, the allegation which I have now mentioned will lose still more of its weight; and it will appear altogether *impossible*, that that exuberance of fancy, which forms the chief recommendation of the most ancient poets, should arise entirely from the vehemence of their passion, and the defects of their language. Was it a scanty vocabulary, which enabled the imagination of Milton to soar to a region hitherto deemed inaccessible to the genius of mortals? Was it a scanty vocabulary, which inspired the woodnotes wild of Shakepeare, and of Burns? Was it a scanty vocabulary,

bulary, which dictated the extravagant, the alluring fictions of Tasso, or gave birth to those visionary forms which perpetually glittered in the eyes of the romantic Collins? Some of the bards of very remote antiquity seem to have equalled in genius those now mentioned, and a sufficient number of their compositions has been handed down, to shew, that, had they lived in a happier age, they might have rivalled, or even surpassed, in reputation, their illustrious successors.

A farther confirmation of this remark may be found in that style of composition which yet distinguishes the poetry of the eastern nations. The inhabitants of Asia, less favoured than those of Europe, have neither had their imaginations regulated by the severity of criticism, nor their understandings enriched by the discoveries of science. Their imaginations have therefore lost nothing of their primeval exuberance, and at this day, the productions of a fancy, vigorous by nature and unrestrained by art, constitute the chief recommendations of the oriental poets.

In comparing the poetry of the ancient European bards, with that of Persia, India, and Arabia, (which may be done with the utmost propriety, as these compositions are the productions of men, who, although they did not live at the same period of the world, had arrived at nearly the same stage of mental improvement,) we are struck with a remarkable difference between the objects which seem to have peculiarly gratified the imagination of each. The ancient European bards sung with rapture of the sublimity of nature, while the Asiatics seem to have dwelt with much delight on her beauties. "The brightness of the sun," the heath of Lena and the thunder among distant hills," are among the favourite images of Ossian; while on the other hand, in the works of the Eastern poets, almost every verse is raised to enthusiasm by the melody of the nightingale, the beauties of the hyacinth, and the fragrance of the rose. Even the passion of love, when rendered the theme of their inspiration, presents an aspect varying according to the character and disposition of each. In Ossian, it is the sentiment of manly affection, with which the warrior contemplates the mistress of his heart. In Hafiz, Ferdusi, and other admired poets of the East, it appears in those languishing protestations of affection, and earnest intreaties for favour, which mark the intemperance of Asiatic love, and the impetuosity of youthful desire. The ancient poetry of Europe may be compared to a venerable oak, the pride of the mountains and the monarch of the woods, which has long resisted the shocks of warring elements, and withstood the fury of the winter blast. The poetry of Asia, on the other hand, may be likened to a delicate rose, which has been reared in the gardens of security, nursed by the hand of tenderness, and cherished by the fervour of an eastern sun.—The former transports the heroic soul, the latter captivates the feeling heart.

*Edinburgh*, *March* 16. 1805. S. M.

## REMARKS *made in a* TOUR *through some of the* ORKNEY ISLANDS *in* 1804.

(*Continued from our last, p.* 184.)

HAVING finished the journal of my progress through the principal islands of Orkney, I shall (before proceeding to Shetland) add a few

few general and desultory remarks applicable to the whole.

*Trees.*—At present, the whole face of Orkney is bare of trees. That this was not formerly the case is abundantly evident, from inspection of the peat-mosses, in every district where these have been laid open by the digging of peats for fuel. I never failed to find in such places, pieces of the bark, frequently little branches, of the birch tree * (betula alba,) which must therefore, at some former period, have been very abundant. The birch seems, however, now to be extinct: I did not meet with a single living specimen in the whole course of my wanderings through the islands. In a moss belonging to Capt. Richan, in the parish of Deerness, whole bushels of hazel-nuts are occasionally dug up, the exterior being of a black colour, but firm in texture; the kernels, however, entirely wasted. Of the *hazel*-tree (corylus avellana) which must also have abounded in former times, we have already recorded the expiring remains in Hoy island. Trunks and cones of the common *Scotch-fir* (pinus silvestrus) I was told by Capt. Richan, the proprietor, have also been found in the moss of Deerness; together with branches, twigs, and cones of the *pitch-pine* † or silver-fir (pinus picea.) The Scotch fir is now totally extinct in Orkney. The pitch-pine has once been indigenous to Orkney, and probably to the northern extremity of the continent of Scotland: it is now extinct in the British dominions; but it is still native in Norway, where it covers the rocky coasts down to the water's edge. The *mountain-ash* or *roan*-tree (sorbus aucuparia) exists, but barely exists, in Hoy, at this day. Several species of the *willow* tribe are natives of different islands. I pretty generally met with the following: salix arbuscula, salix prunefolia, and salix cinerea. But they seldom exceeded four or five feet in height, even in favourable situations. Probably they are cut for hoops, stakes, &c. Salix argentea and salex repeus, both creeping along the ground, can scarce be mentioned among trees. In gardens in the town of Kirkwall several plane-trees, ash, &c. being sheltered by the surrounding houses, have attained the height of twenty or thirty feet.

We were often told in Orkney, "Trees will not grow here: the "climate and soil are very unfavour-"able: the spray is utterly destruc-"tive: attempts have been made and "have uniformly failed." The circumstance of the shores of *Norway* being thickly wooded, is sufficient evidence that there is nothing in the climate or the soil of Orkney, to prevent the growing of trees ‡: and we deny that the experiment has ever been fairly made. In the first place, it is not a fair trial to plant here and there an isolated seedling tree; large clumps

* The bark is generally more perfect than the timber. In some specimens the thin silvery laminæ of the outer skin were easily separable.

† I am aware that twigs of any kind of wood taken from some peat-mosses, burn with as brilliant a flame as those of the pitch pine; and that this has, with much probability, been thought to depend, not on the presence of the natural resin, but on a partial conversion of the twig into a bituminous substance. The existence of two kinds of pine in the Orkney mosses, however, is proved by the occurrence of two kinds of cones, one small and round belonging to Scotch fir; the other oblong, and having reflexed scales, characteristic of the cones of the pitch-pine.

‡ Buchanan seems to have been aware of this. His words are: "Nulla usquam arbor, ac ne frutex quidem præter ericam; nec id tam cœli aut soli vitio, quam incolentium ignavia, quod facile ostenditur ex arborum radicibus quæ in pluribus locis eruuntur." *Hist.* lib. i. ad fin.

clumps ought to be planted together, so that, as the trees rise in height, each may afford shelter to another. In the second place, it is not a fair trial to transplant seedling trees from the rich and warm beds of Dickson's nurseries at Edinburgh, to the comparatively poor and chilly soil of the far northern Orkneys. It is evident that young plants brought from Norway; from a country equally cold, and equally exposed to blasts and to spray, would have many more chances to succeed. The Pitch-pine or Silver-fir clothes the shores of Norway to the very edge of the sea. This is the principal kind of tree, the culture of which should be attempted in Orkney; and surely a sufficient number of seedlings might, without much difficulty, be transported from Norway. To this might be added the Larch and the Plane tree, both of which grow very freely; and the Birch and the Hazel, the bark and branches of both of which are abundant in most of the peat-mosses. The Mountain-ash, too, is very hardy, and as we have seen, is scarce yet extinct in Orkney.

*Sheep.*—The sheep are still allowed to run at large over the whole country, being restrained, during summer, only by the *hill-dykes* which protect the arable land. When sheep are to be caught, they are still, in most places, hounded down by dogs, instead of being driven into folds, and seized by gentler means. In many places, still, the wool, instead of being shorn with scissars, is forcibly and cruelly torn from their backs. During winter the sheep betake themselves to the shores to pick up the tender sea-weeds cast up by the waves; and many of them perish in this pursuit, being washed away by sudden swells of the billows. It has long been remarked in Orkney *, that if a man and a dog land upon some of the islands in *vor*-time (i. e. Spring) almost all the pregnant sheep take to running, and run till they fall down dead. On inquiry I found that this was only in holms where the sheep were very wild and much frightened, not being accustomed to see either men or dogs.

Although rocky eminences and cliffs, abounding with tufts of the finest grass, but inaccessible to sheep, are common in Orkney, I did not see a single *goat* in the whole country.

*Bees.*—The honey-bee has never, as far as I could learn, been carried into Orkney. I have no doubt, however, but it might succeed. The yellow coltsfoot (tussilago farfara) is too common, and must be one of the earliest blown flowers in Orkney. The creeping silver-willow (salix argentea) covers many upland pastures, and its catkins must also afford an early banquet to the native bees. The sea-gilliflower or thrift, (statice armeria,) well known in Orkney by the name of *arby*†, covers the shores, and is also a pretty early flower. To these succeed the grass of Parnassus (parnassia palustris,) rendering many meadows wholly white; the plantain shoreweed (littorella lacustris,) fringing the margin of every lake; and the marsh trefoil or *bogbean* (menyanthes trifoliata,) occupying whole acres of marsh ground. In July the heaths (Erica vulgaris, tetralix, and cinerea,) and the wild thyme (thymus serpyllum,) come in blow, and offer abundant sources of mellifluous wealth to the busy tribes. The most common wild bee in Orkney is the humble bee (apis terrestris;) but the brown bee (apis muscorum) is also a native.

*Game.*

* Wallace, Brand, &c.

† Formerly its thick tuberous roots, sliced and boiled with milk, were highly prized in Orkney as a remedy in phthisis.

*Game.*—The only game found in Orkney is the red grous or *muirfowl*, which is particularly abundant in the hilly islands of Rousay and Hoy *. Partridges have never been seen in Orkney. Hares are unknown, although rabbits are very plentiful in most of the Islands. The sportsman, however, will here never want employment. If he should fail for some time to raise a pack of grous, he will not pass a marsh without starting several wisps of snipe: every pool will afford him a chance of a team of ducks (chiefly the wigeon, golden eye, mallard, and teal.) The lakes and downs are inhabited by wild geese (bernacle, bean and brent geese) in abundance. The air is often darkened by the flocks of grey plovers. The curlieu or *whaap*, and the lapwing or *peewit*, are every where common. It is almost unnecessary to state, that an excursion in a boat along the shores of some of the *holms* and less-frequented islands will afford the sportsman a chance of many aquatic birds which are rare on the southern shores of Britain; particularly, the eider duck; the sheildrake; the ember goose; the arctic gull; the shear water, &c. For these, as well as for the geese, very long-barrelled fowling pieces, with slug-shot, are required.

*Moluccа Beans.*—Large exotic nuts or seeds, which, in Orkney, are known by the name of Molucca Beans, are occasionally found among the rejectamenta of the sea, especially after westerly winds. I was presented with two or three of them by my friends in different islands. There are two kinds found: the larger seems † to be a seed from the great pod of the mimoso scandens of the West-Indies; the smaller, a seed from the pod of the dolichos pruriens, or cow-itch ‡, also a native of the same regions. It is probable that the currents of the ocean, and particularly that great current which issues from the Gulf of Florida, and is hence denominated the Gulf Stream, aid very much in transporting across the mighty Atlantic these American products.—They are generally quite fresh and entire, and afford an additional proof how impervious to moisture and how imperishable nuts, and seeds in general, are.

*Fisheries.*—A very great proportion of the Orkney Farmers are depressed by poverty. From this low state it is almost impossible for them to extricate themselves, on account of the smallness of their farms; most of them paying only from 5l. to 10l. of yearly rent, for their patches of ground. Such men cannot possibly have it in their power to fit out large boats, or to purchase long lines for the cod and ling, or a train of nets for the herring fishery; the expence of a long line and a train of herring nets amounting, together, to about 30l. sterling. The boats of the Orkney farmers are in general miserable *cobles*, between 1 and 2 tons burden: whereas the cod and ling fishery would require boats of at least 5 or 6 tons, with proper sails and rigging. It is to be hoped that the patriotic exertions of the Highland Society, and of the Society for the Improvement of the Fisheries, will soon extend their beneficial influence to the Orkneys.—To give some idea of the richness of this field of industry, I shall here mention the principal fishes that are found in numbers around the Orkney islands.

*Dog-fish.*—(Squalus acanthias) are

* I could not learn that the white grous, or ptarmigan, has ever been observed.

† Dr Wright.

‡ So named from the down of the pods consisting of sharp spiculæ, which frequently, in windy weather, greatly torment the cattle. This penetrating down is now employed as a mechanical remedy to expel lumbrici.

are caught in vast quantities * on hand lines, in July and August, the bait being a piece of the small grey fish called *cooth*, or a piece of the dog-fish itself. Much oil is made from the livers of the dog-fish, while the bodies are dried by the natives, without salt, and stored up against winter. Their taste is rather oily and heavy, but still they are not a despicable food †.

*Sillocks.*—The fry of the coal-fish, and *cooths*, the coal-fish when a year old, are taken, close in shore, in inconceivable numbers at the beginning of winter. Much oil is also made from these *grey-fish*, as they are termed ‡: but this kind of oil is appropriated to the use of the inhabitants themselves, it being found to become rancid when kept for any considerable time, and being therefore unfit for exportation.

*Cod fish* are common on different banks around the Orkney islands, especially off Stronsa, Westra, and Papa Westra, in the north; and Hoy and Walls ‖, in the south. *Ling* are sometimes taken; but are less common, and are generally meagre, in the Orkney seas. *Tusk* are rare in those seas, being truly a northern fish.

*Haddocks* are in general very abundant in most of the large sounds or friths. In Enhallow Sound, stretching between Pomona and the islands of Gairsey and Rousay, they were very plentiful last season, in August and September.

*Thornbacks* (raia clavata) are also caught pretty generally and plentifully in the friths of Orkney, as in Stronsa frith They are known by the name of skate; but few of the real *skate* (raia batis) are found. The thornbacks are dried by the natives without salt, and may be seen hanging about the chimnies of the meaner cottages thickly covered with dust. *Hollibut* are frequently met with, of a very large size: but they are not much esteemed by the poor, as they must be eaten green, and cannot be laid up in store. *Turbot* are also caught, though seldom in numbers.

The *ballan-wrasse* or *bergil* is found in the summer months. The *saury-pike*, or *skipper* §, sometimes passes southward in shoals, in September, in company with the herring. *Mackrel*

* One man will sometimes catch 15 score in a day.—There are twenty-four boats belonging to the parish of Orphir alone, engaged in this fishery, with four or five men in each boat.—*Statistical report of Orphir, by Mr Liddel.*

† Many of them are, every winter, accidentally caught in the herring nets in the Frith of Forth; but here they are, through prejudice, neglected as food, and allowed to rot on the dunghill. It was long ago well observed by Mr Knox, that if the name were changed from *Dog fish* to *King George fish*, this groundless prejudice would probably soon subside.

‡ The *coal fish* being found in abundance on most parts of the coast of Scotland, is known by a greater number of different names than any other fish. The *cooth* of Orkney is the *piltock* of Shetland; the *glassock* of Sutherland; the *cuddie* of the Moray Frith; and the *grey podly* of Edinburgh. The appearance of the *coal fish* varies much with its age and growth: hence a new series of names. In Stronsa it is, 1. a *sillock*; 2. *cooth*; 3. *harbin*; 4. *cudden*; 5. *sethe*. The full grown fish is also called a *sey*, a *grey ling* a *grey lord*, &c. It is the gadus carbonarius of Linnæus.

‖ The little farmers of the parish of Walls, at the intervals they could spare from their labours on land, have been known to catch 40,000 fine cod in one season, on the shores of the Pentland Frith.—*Dr Barry's statistical report of Kirkwall.*

§ Esox saurus, Lin. Trans. vii. In the Frith of Forth, called *Gandannock*. It has uncommonly long slender jaws, so that its mouth resembles very much the bill of the avoset.

*rel* are generally found in considerable numbers once a-year, preceding the herrings; and the *sea-pike* accompanying the mackrel.

*Herrings* generally come once a-year into Pentland Frith in vast shoals, filling all the bays and sheltered places. Last September (1804) a hoal occupied Scalpa Flow (the Orkney Mediterranean, as it has been termed) for a considerable time. The progress of the shoals is easily observed, by the sea being there spotted with hundreds, often thousands of fowls,— gannetts, divers, corvorants, gulls.

In the rivulets and lakes, *Sea-trout* * (salmo trutta) of a large size, are very abundant. I was informed by an Orkney gentleman, that, in the course of one flood tide, he once caught with a net fourteen dozen of large trouts, endeavouring to force their way into the burn of Scalpa near Kirkwall. Orkney offers many stations, promising to be equally productive. Yet this fishery of sea trout is almost quite disregarded. *Salmon* are frequently caught in the seas around Orkney:—and there can be no doubt but they might annually be taken in considerable quantity at the outlet of the great lake of Stennis in the bay of Stromness. Large *eels* are very common in the fresh water lakes: but the natives despise them calling them water serpents *Congers* of a great size are frequently caught in the friths; but these the fishers esteem good food.

*Bars to improvement.*—The principal bars to the improvement of the Orkney islands, are at present the following: 1. The smallness of the farms. 2. The want of leases, or the shortness of those granted 3. The want of inclosures 4. The total neglect of herding; all the cattle, sheep, hogs, geese, &c. and being preposterously allowed to traverse and *poach* the arable land for one half of the year. * 5. The want of markets, where the small farmer or fisher may readily dispose of his superfluous produce to the highest bidder. 6. The exclusive eagerness shewn by the proprietors to increase the quantity of kelp manufactured on their shores, to the neglect of agriculture or the rearing of stock. 7. The ignorance of the natives of the proper method of prosecuting the fisheries, and their inability through poverty.—To these may be added several circumstances that may probably require parliamentary interference. 1. The almost total want of roads. 2. The heavy feu-duties of various kinds, paid to Lord Dundas, as donatary of the Crown, and as *tacksman* of the bishoprick of Orkney. 3. The great intermixture of property in many places, and the vast extent of unimproved because undivided common. For remedying these last mentioned evils, indeed, the laws already enacted respecting run-rig lands and commonties would prove sufficient, were the whole proprietors inspired with the proper spirit to act upon them.

*Defenceless state of Orkney.*—I cannot take leave of Orkney without remarking, that it is internally totally defenceless. The rapid tides and dangerous rocks which skirt these islands, together with their comparative poverty, may no doubt be considered as affording ample security against foreign invasion. But it will hardly be pleaded that it is consistent with sound policy that towns of such magnitude and consequence as Kirkwall and Stromness should be left, as at present, without the slightest means of defence against the

* Sometimes called *red-trout*, from its flesh becoming red on being boiled: and sometimes *white-trout* or *whitling*, from its shining silvery scales. The year-olds are called *herlings* in the south of Scotland.

the sudden and transient atack of an enemy's cruiser or a privateer. The sagacious Cromwell had less reason to dread an attack upon Kirkwall, or a defection from his interest there, than that town now has to expect a hostile visit from some of the enemy's cruizers, (for British armed vessels, though frequently in Kirkwall roads, are not always there;) yet the remains of a fort reared by Cromwell still exist in the neighbourhood, and one of his rusty cannon still lies on the rampart.—Government seem, indeed, to have been sensible of the necessity of some shew, at least, of a place of strength: several carronades having actually been transmitted to Kirkwall: but, strange to tell, these carronades have never been mounted, but lie tossed about and exposed on the beach, some of them even within sea-mark, and overwhelm'd by every flood-tide! No regular soldiers are quartered in Orkney: the militia does not extend to these islands which are judiciously excused, as a more valuable nursery for the navy; though many hearts are willing, no volunteer corps have been embodied in Orkney. Internally, therefore, Orkney is quite defenceless. The people, however, (as already observed,) are doubtless able and willing to defend themselves from any sudden attack, were the means fairly put in their hands.

*(To be continued.)*

## *Result of an Experiment on the* American Crown Pea.

*To the Editor.*

SIR,

THE seeds of a pea, under this designation, have, during the past winter, been very extensively sold in Edinburgh, at the high rate of 14 seeds for a shilling. A drawing of this extraordinary American pea in full blow, was publicly exhibited in the streets of the city, and could not fail to attract some attention: for this drawing, if minutely correct, indicated a kind of pea altogether new and extraordinary and hitherto undescribed by botanists; but as the was extremely improbable, and as the seeds sold exactly resembled the seeds of the common crown pea, and were not such in form and appearance, as a botanist would, from analogy *, expect to be produced by a plant clothed with the foliage and bearing the pods represented in the drawing,—considerable suspicions were entertained of imposition. It was resolved, therefore, about the beginning of February last, immediately to subject the matter to an *experimentum crucis*,—the cultivation of the pea in a hot-house. A packet of the seeds was accordingly purchased from the vender himself, and several of them sown in a flower pot, and forced in one of the stoves of the Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, with permission of Mr Don. In about six weeks, three of the plants thus forced, had attained more than half a foot in height, and had completely evolved their foliage, stipulæ, cirri, &c.: as was previously expected, they exhibited exactly the habit of the common crown pea, and shewed no disposition to resemble, in any respect, the boasted American prototype held out to the public.

The following distinctive and characteristic circumstances will completely convince any botanist or cultivator

* The seeds of a pisune or pea are generally quite globular; those of a lathyrus or vechling, which the figure resembled, are generally cylindrical, or, if globular, somewhat angular.

tivator of plants, that there was a *physical impossibility* that the peas thus raised could ever assume the appearance of the pea represented in the figure.

1 The American crown pea is represented in the figure as *much branched*. But the peas which sprung up in the Botanic Garden, not only did *not* branch, but did *not* even shew any *tendency* to branch, which they must necessarily have done before attaining the height of half a foot.

2. In the figure the leaf is *diphyllous*, or the *leafits* are in pairs only. But in the plants which have been raised from the seeds, the leaf is completely *pinnated*, the leafits being as numerous as in the common pea.

3. The leafits in the figure are longer and narrower than those of the pisum or *pea* genus, and they are entire on the margins. But the leafits of the forced plants are *round* and *serrated* like those of the common pea.

4. In the drawing, *no tendrils* or claspers are represented as proceeding from the leaves, and these surely could not escape the most careless imitator. But in the forced plants, *long* coiling tendrils immediately displayed themselves, from the ends of the leaves.

5. The whole habit (to use a botanical term) of the plant represented in the drawing is much more that of a Lathyrus or Vetchling (such as the lathyrus aphaca, or yellow vetchling) than of a *Pisum*. But the plants which have sprung up have completely assumed the habit of the common crown pea (Pisum sativum, var. umbellatum.)

It may here be remarked, that the drawing is so little in consonance with nature, that it rather appears to have been the result of an ignorant country painter's *imagination* of a fine pea, than of the most awkward possible imagination of a living plant. For it really seems to unite three genera in one plant: it may be said to have the leaves of a Lathyrus, the flowers of a Pisum, and the pods of a Vicia: and it is, above all, distinguished by this anomaly in botany, that naked cirri or tendrils arise from the main stalk, while none proceed from the leaves.

It may be proper to notice, however, that the attestations of a clergyman and a justice of the peace in Lancashire are appended to the drawing. But on this circumstance it were perhaps enough to remark, how easy it must have been to impose on country gentlemen, who were neither botanists nor florists: for sure it is, that neither botanist nor florist would have put his signature of approbation to a figure that, *in gremio*, outrages nature so violently as that in question does. At any rate, their certificate only goes the length of declaring, that they saw, in a garden in England, a luxuriant pea-plant, which was said to be from America, and to which they conceived the drawing bore some resemblance: they do by no means certify that each packet of peas sold in Edinburgh was the produce of this uncommon American pea; nor is their certificate at all inconsistent with the supposition (which is probably very near the truth) that the seeds of the *common crown pea*, which have been annually sown in Britain for a century past, and which may be purchased in retail at 6d. per lb., were actually sold in Edinburgh, under the name of *American crown pea*, at the rate of L. 5. or L. 6. sterling per lib.

The forced peas are now in the possession of Messrs Dickson and Shade, nurserymen. One of the peas having accidentally had the top of its stem broken off, has since thrown out one or two branches: but this is a natural and well-known consequence of the accident.

It may be mentioned, in conclu-

sion,

sion, that one of the first botanists in Britain, Mr G. Don, entirely coincides in all the botanical distinctions above laid down.

*Edinburgh, April* 4. 1805. } *P. N.*

*On the* 10*th of March last, notice to the above effect was sent to the Magistrates of Edinburgh: And since that date the Vender of the American Pea has not been seen in this city.*

## *Some* Account *of the* Mahratta Empire.

*From the Asiatic Annual Register for* 1803.

THE greatest length of the Mahratta dominions, from Delhi in the northern, to the river Tumbudra in the southern extremity, is 970 British miles; and the extreme breadth from east to west, where they stretch across the peninsula, from the bay of Bengal to the gulph of Cambey, is 900 British miles. This immense tract of country contains the provinces of Delhi, Agra, Ajmere, Malwa, Gujerat, Candeis, Baglana, Visiapur; the Konkan, Berar, Cuttack, and part of Dowlatabad. Of these provinces Delhi, Agra, part of Malwa, Gujerat, Candeis, Baglana and Visiapur, are highly fertile and populous, yielding abundance of the finest grain, thronged with towns and villages, and enriched by a busy internal commerce. The other provinces of the empire are not only less productive, but much less disposed by nature for cultivation and improvement. Lofty ridges of mountains, and vast sterile vales, sometimes covered with wood, form the most prominent features of their local scenery. They are consequently thinly inhabited; but the inhabitants, partaking of the nature of the soil, are hardy, robust, and intrepid.

The whole population of the Mahratta empire may be computed at about forty millions. This population is composed of different nations and of various tribes, of whom nine tenths are Hindus, and the rest Musulmans. The nation from which the empire derived its origin, and takes its name, occupies the province of Baglana, the northern part of Visiapur, and the mountainous districts of Dowlatabad and Berar. These parts of the country formed one of the grand divisions of ancient Hindustan, described by the Hindu geographers, and called in Puranis, Maharastra; by which name its inhabitants are likewise designated. The ancient Maharastras were a pastoral people; who, like the Tartar hordes, united the business of war and plunder to the occupation of shepherds: and the modern Mahrattas, though in some respects more civilized, still inherit the warlike and predatory spirit of their ancestors. This spirit, directed by the talents of some distinguished chieftains, has, in the course of one hundred and sixty years, raised them from the obscurity of freebooters, to be one of the most powerful nations in Asia.

Fortunately, however, for the independence of neighbouring states, the power of this great empire is divided amongst five princes, who, though united together in one general confederacy, under an acknowledged superior, have, nevertheless, not only separate but rival interests: and are in the constant practice of supporting against each other, by force of arms, their private and individual views. The supremacy of the constituted head of the empire is in reality merely nominal; for as he is the weakest of the five princes, his authority,

authority, in all state questions of importance, is not only disregarded but opposed; unless his decision be suitable to the particular interests of each of the others. Even union against foreign aggression, which was the original, and is now the only remaining principle of this singular confederation, has been gradually so much weakened, that it is extremely doubtful whether it could be now revived by any thing short of a general invasion of the whole empire. Except, in such an event, the principal states, so powerful in themselves, and so independent of each other, could have no common interest to unite them. That sentiment of attachment arising from the same religious and civil institutions, the same language, and habits, and the same love of conquest and depredation, must now be almost extinguished. Had that sentiment existed in its original force, a prince endowed with so much sagacity, and possessed of so much power as Holkar, would not have suffered his general rivalship, much less his recent enmity with Scindeah, to subdue all his native feelings, and to induce him to remain an inactive spectator of the march of a British army into the heart of the empire, and the hereditary dominions of his countrymen. The cautions and strict neutrality which he observed on this occasion, clearly demonstrates, that he felt as little sympathy for the cause of the confederates as for that of the sovereign head of the empire, which the English had espoused; and that he was influenced by no public sentiments whatever, but those which a dread of the English arms, a prudent regard for his own security, and a view of his personal interests, inspired.

Were it not for this disunion among these princes, their collective military strength and resources would be extremely formidable.

The efficient force of their combined armies amounts to 210,000 cavalry, and 96,000 infantry; of this force, the whole of the infantry, and about three fourths of the cavalry, are kept in a constant state of readiness to march against an enemy. The infantry is chiefly officered by European adventurers; and in the service of Scindeah, the battalions are accoutred, formed, and brigaded, nearly in the manner as the native regiment in the British Indian army. To the different bodies of infantry there is attached very large trains of artillery, well appointed and served; and, at the commencement of the late war, the pieces of ordnance attached to Scindeah's brigades amounted to 464.

The cavalry is divided into four distinct classes; namely, the body guards of the princes; the troops furnished by the Silladars, or armour-bearers; the volunteers, who find their own horses, arms and accoutrements; and the pindarens, or marauders, who serve without pay, and subsist entirely by plunder. This last class, however, is composed of so licentious and ungovernable a rabble, that it is not now employed in the armies of the principal chieftains. None of the classes, except the body guards, are under any regular discipline; the troopers are not enlisted for any stated period; and, except mounting the piquet guards in camp, the cavalry do no duty but in the day of battle. These irregularities, together with the circumstance of the whole of the cavalry being very badly paid, encourage the native predatory disposition of the Mahratta people, and obstruct their advancement in civil life, as well as in military discipline.

Their horses, which are partly reared in their own provinces, and partly brought from Candahar and Tibet, are remarkable for their hardiness, activity, and speed; and there are no people in the world who are more

more skilful in the breeding of that animal, or who attend to it with such unremitting industry. The Mahrattas are thus accustomed, from their infancy, to the use and management of horses; and hence arises that extraordinary dexterity in horsemanship, which their troopers so often display.

The resources of the Mahratta states are amply sufficient to maintain a still larger military establishment, even regularly paid, and systematically constituted. From documents in our possession, it appears on a moderate estimate, that the collective revenues of the empire amount on an average of seven years, to about seventeen millions sterling. As these revenues are almost entirely derived from the land rents, of which they are a fourth part, and as the whole of the land rents are solely at the disposal of the several sovereign chiefs, it is evident, that they might, under any well-regulated financial system, furnish supplies for any exigency of war or other public contingency, however great. But the barbarous policy of those chiefs in regard to their revenues, the avaricious principles on which it is founded, and the insatiable rapacity with which it is pursued, blasts all the natural advantages of their fertile provinces, and too frequently exhibits the deplorable and singular spectacle of a famine, in the midst of a country producing three crops of grain in the year. Every Mahratta prince, and every jaghirdar or military chief in the empire, has a kajana, or a collection of treasure, consisting of specie and jewels, which is lodged in a secret depository within the walls of a strong fortress, often erected for the purpose, on one of the most inaccessible mountains in his dominions. This private treasure, as it is the first and never-ceasing object of his ambition to increase, so it is his greatest pride to defend. To gratify this sordid desire, he levies extraordinary contributions on his own subjects; and, as they seldom pay the revenue regularly, or indeed without compulsion, he makes their irregularity, which is partly occasioned by his extortion, a pretext for robbing them of the whole of their moveable property. No want of money for supporting a war, even in defence of his own territory, ever induces a Mahratta chief to supply the deficiency from his private treasury; the loss of which would be to him a much more grievous calamity than the subjugation of his country. The hill forts, or castles, in which these private treasures are deposited, are impregnable to any native force; and some of them are so situated on the tops of immense rocks, surrounded by fastnesses, that they seem capable of resisting the utmost efforts of European skill and valour. To these forts, therefore, the Mahratta chiefs generally retreat, when they have sustained a complete defeat in the field, and see no probability of being able to rally their forces, and to maintain a successful contest with the enemy. As some of the chiefs are every year engaged in a war of conquest, of plunder, or of defence, the peasantry, who have been stripped of the produce of their industrious labours, in order to carry it on, are driven by actual want to take up arms, and join the army as a means of support. Every province in the empire is in its turn subjected to a compulsory impost, or in other words, to a sort of legal robbery; and its inhabitants are consequently reduced to this necessity of becoming soldiers. Hence a spirit of depredation is diffused amongst the people, which naturally begets a passion for warlike enterprize; hence, in the participation of the spoils of an enemy, the peasantry lose the remembrance

brance of the sufferings they endured in their agricultural occupations; and hence all the different nations composing this vast empire, have become familiarized to military habits, and to all the difficulties of warfare.

## Genealogy of Holkar.

*From the same.*

MELHAR RAO was the son of Holkar, alias Gereria, an inhabitant of the Dekhan, a man so poor, that with the greatest labour and difficulty he maintained his family.—Becoming an orphan at the age of six years, Melhar Rao went to his uncle, who, with six horsemen, was in the service of rajah Sehuba, of the Saho family. On entering his ninth year, the uncle, whose name is unknown, having a large flock of sheep and goats, consigned them to him for pasturage; in consequence of which, early every morning he took them out to graze, returning again with them in the evening. One day, carrying his victuals, the uncle perceived his nephew sleeping, and that a black snake had exalted and spread its head over him as an umbrella, to shade him from the rays of the sun. The snake retired to its hole on the uncle's approach, leaving him in the utmost astonishment, and confirmed in the belief, that Melhar Rao would become a great man.—Having awoke and given him his victuals, he carried him home, dispensed with his attendance on the flock, and, taking from him a written obligation, promising to befriend him in case he attained any eminence, he got his nephew entertained as a porter in the service of rajah Sehuba. Melhor Rao, in the course of a short time, rendering himself capable and useful; was, among others, allowed to approach the presence; obtained the command of a paigah; and, being born under a fortunate planet, rose to dignity and power.

A son of his, Kehndee Rao, was slain in the battle with Sorjhmul Jhat. His wife, Thelia Bai, who now resides at Cholee Mheysr, brought him a son, Malee Rao, who being of a very vicious disposition, and a great debauchee, she had trampled to death by an elephant; and a daughter, Mekta Bai, who lately burned herself at the tomb of her husband.

Melhar Rao had a brother whose name is unknown, who at his death left three sons; the eldest of whom was the father of Babojee Holkar, the youngest of whose children is Tekojee Holkar, now enjoying such eminence and grandeur in Hindustan.

Tekojee Holkar has seven sons, the youngest of which, Setajee Holkar, is in the Dekhan, in the subah of Berar, superintending his father's zemindary in that province; he has likewise a child, Bhengajee Holkar, of whom the grandfather is so fond that he makes him his constant companion.

## Peculiar Customs of the Hindus.

*From the same.*

IN communicating the following facts and circumstances, as being illustrative of the peculiar temper and manner of the Hindus, it occurs to me that an English reader will scarcely be disposed to believe, that customs as barbarous and savage as any obtaining in the remote islands of the South

South Seas, should have continued to exist so long in a country, the greatest part of which has been under the controul of the British government for near forty years, and where the natives have been accustomed to an intercourse with Europeans, in a more or less degree, for a greater length of time; it may, therefore, not be improper to premise, that the scene of these transactions, for the most part, laid at a distance of more than eight hundred miles from the seat of government, and that the Europeans residing under British protection in India, bear a very small proportion to twenty-four millions of native subjects, within the provinces of Bengal, Behar, Orissa, and Benares; and that the residence of such Europeans is generally confined to cities and large towns, most convenient for commercial views; their intercourse with the inhabitants of the villages, and internal parts of the provinces, must therefore have been very limited.

In the report made to the government of Bengal, by Mr Duncan, while resident at Benares, of the state of that province in the year 1787, he describes the people inhabiting the Western Frontier, of so turbulent and ungovernable a disposition, that if a cow broke into an inclosure, it was a circumstance sufficient to arm one half of the village against the other, and to produce great effusion of blood.

The demand of rent from the farmers if accompanied by threats from the officer of government, was frequently answered by setting fire to the whole village, and retreating within the dominions of the Nabob Visier. Among these ungovernable tribes that of the Rauje Koomar is described as the most numerous, and of the most enterprising and desperate resolution, and famous, according to their own ideas, for an undeviating sense of honour. These people boast of their descent from one of the most ancient Hindu Kings; and so high is their idea of personal independence, and the dread of its suffering the smallest diminution so extravagant, that they consider the marriage of a daughter as abridging the funds of the family, and conveying to a stranger the custody of their happiness; the atrocious custom of starving their female infants is therefore not only sanctioned amongst them, but they even compel their women to be the perpetrators of this savage and unnatural crime *.

Not less extravagant and barbarous were the customs arising from the singular tenets and irrational privileges of the Bramins. Exempted, as is this tribe, by national prejudice, from capital punishment, it is not unnatural to expect that assassins for pay may be easily procured from among them; but so completely have the other Hindu tribes surrendered their judgments and their feelings, that the Bramin can extort what confessions he pleases by threats of mischief to himself or of violence to old women or infants; nay, so complete has this surrender been, that in many instances the notion of the inviolability of the person of a Bramin has become the means of setting the laws at defiance; as no Hindu, from an apprehension of becoming the cause of the death of a Bramin, dared to execute any legal process against them; and, whenever any coercion or arrest was attempted on the person of one of this tribe by a public officer of government, in order to intimidate

* Those people mostly inhabit the opposite line of the boundary of Benares in the Vizier's dominions; but rent lands in Benares are about the annual value of 20 lacks of rupees.

timidate and avert the officer from his purpose, he would immediately prepare to rip open his own belly, or threaten to swallow, and sometimes actually swallow, poison, or some powder pretended to be such, or to dash an infant on the stones.

On the slightest provocation the Bramins would wound themselves with razors they carry about them for the purpose: or, enclosing an old woman in a circular inclosure, called a khoor, in which, raising a pile of wood or other combustibles; and then, within its area, betake themselves to fasting, either real or pretended; and on any molestation being offered, or on the approach of any person to enforce a legal process, would actually set fire to the pile and consume their victim in the flames.

An instance of this occurred in the year 1787, when Mr Duncan was president at Benares. Some coercion or arrest being threatened to a Bramin, who had refused to pay his dues to government, the president was informed that the Bramins had assembled and constructed a khoor, within which they had inclosed an old woman, had seated themselves by her, and were prepared on the expected approach of the officers of the revenue, to set fire to the building, and, together with their victim, to perish in the flames; a message from the president, requiring them to state their grievance, brought the men to his presence, but the old woman positively refused to come, declaring, that if compelled by force, she would throw herself into the first well she saw in her way. The Bramins on their arrival before the president, complained that justice was not done them by the Raja, for that he had refused to hear the complaints of the ryots against the extortions of his officers, by ordering them to be driven from his presence and beaten; that being helpless they had prepared the pile, and were ready to part with their lives.

The inordinate pride of this tribe manifests itself in no less extravagant a degree in the mode of avenging a private insult. A Mussulman having a pecuniary claim upon a Bramin, after repeated refusals, began to despair of payment; he, therefore, resolved to obtain his due by force, and accordingly prepared to enter the house of his debtor in the night, while the Bramin was employed in watching the corn he had cut down in the course of the preceding day: the creditor, with his attendants, having surrounded the house, he himself entered it with a torch, proceeded to the bed of the Bramin's wife, and lifting her head from the pillow, from thence seized the purse with which she was entrusted; her cries having alarmed the females of the family, among whom was the mother of the Bramin, they immediately flew to the apartment; their loud lamentations for her dishonour soon brought the neighbours together, and during the confusion the Bramin and his brother arrived:— "Son," exclaimed the old woman, "we are dishonoured; no Bramin will in future drink under our roof; we must be revenged; go down with me to the river." To the Ganges they immediately went, accompanied by the Bramin's wife, her sister, and his brother; the insulted Bramin, after calling aloud upon the aggressor to make restitution for the theft and his violated honour; the aged mother, stretching forward her head, and baring her neck, called upon her son to do his duty, that she might blast these enemies of her house. As she spoke these words, her son, with a stroke from his scymeter, severed her head from her body; immediately on which, the rest of the relations assembling in a tumultuous and disorderly manner, determined

to

to deny the funeral obsequies both to the head and body; and, that the spirit might be withheld from the sleep of death, to beat a drum for forty days, at the end of which it was imagined the desire for repose would be past, and the ghost become the incessant and eternal torment of all the branches of that family by which their own had been injured.

The Bramin, who had committed the parricide, being apprehended, only expressed his surprise that so common an act should be imputed to him as a crime; and that one of the witnesses against him should be a man whose own brother had revenged an insult in a similar way.

The man in reply observed, that although the insult was so avenged, the person in question was not his brother, though nearly related; and seemed to think that his guilt in murdering, had not been sufficiently expiated by the loss of cash which ensued *.

Another device practised by these Bramins is, when, with a view to realise any pecuniary claim, or for the extortion of money, they proceed, either with some offensive weapon or with poison, to the door of another inhabitant of the same town and village, and take post there in manner called Dhurna; and it is understood, according to the received opinions on this subject, that they are to remain fasting in that place till their object be obtained; and that it is equally incumbent on the party, who is the occasion of the bramin thus sitting, to abstain from nourishment. Until this is effected, ingress and egress to and from the house are also more or less prevented, as according to the common received opinions, neither the one nor the other can be attempted, but at the risk of the Bramin's wounding himself with the weapon, or swallowing some powder or poison, with which he may have come provided.

It was not until the year 1795, that the government of Bengal thought proper to interfere its legislative authory, to put a stop to the practice of sitting dhurna, as well as the more savage custom of the Raje Khoomer's starving their female children; nor is the person of a Bramin, under the new administration of justice within the Company's provinces, exempted from capital punishment, several instances having occurred wherein it has been influenced.

It may be supposed that the preceding facts constitute the *ne plus ultra* of Hindu superstition; but not so, the dictates of bigotry appear to be still more strongly opposed to the sentiments and feelings of nature, in the custom of offering human sacrifice to the Ganges, where they are devoured by the sharks.

These sacrifices are of two descriptions: first, of aged persons of both sexes, which are voluntary; and of children, which of course are involuntary. The fixed periods for the performance of those rites, are at the full moons, in November and January.

The custom of sacrificing children arises from superstitious vows made by the parents; who, when apprehensive of not having issue, promised in the event of their having five children, to devote the fifth to the Ganges.

The island of Sagor, where these inhuman rites are administered, is held to be peculiarly sacred, from its being considered as the termination of the Ganges, and the junction of that

* In the time of Raja Cheits Sing, it was no uncommon thing for a man to cut off the heads of three or four women, and send them to the Raja; on any insult, real or imaginary, from one of his peers or officers.

that river with the sea is denominated *the place of sacrifice.*

So lately as November 1801, some European seamen belonging to the pilot-service of Bengal, being on shore on the island, were witnesses to this horrid ceremony.

The information they gave before one of the justices of the peace for Calcutta, was on oath to the following effect:

That on going on shore, they saw the entrails of a human body floating on the water, and at the same time a great number of the natives assembled on the beach, as near as they could guess, about three thousand. That on asking a Fakeer why so many of the natives were put into the water, he answered that the head fakeer had ordered them to go into the water to be devoured by sharks, for the prosperity of their respective families; that they saw eleven men, women, and boys, thus destroyed; and it further appeared by other incontestible evidence, that the victims destroyed in November amounted to thirty-nine; and moreover, that a boy, about twelve years old, who had been thrown into the river, having saved himself by swimming, a Gosayne endeavoured to extend his protection to him; but singular and unnatural as it may appear, he was again seized and committed to destruction by his own parents.

To prevent this practice, a law was enacted in March 1802, declaring any person who should aid or assist in forcing any individual to be a victim of this superstition, guilty of murder. But, with respect to the voluntary sacrifice of aged and infirm, the practice prevailed so generally and was considered by the Hindus, under some circumstances, so instrumental to their happiness in a future state of existence, that it was doubted whether any rule could be adopted to prevent a practice, not only rooted in the remotest antiquity, but sanctioned by express tenets in their most sacred books; while the custom of sacrificing children stands not either on the prescriptive laws of antiquity, or any tenet of the Shanscrit; but, on the contrary, it is among the Hindus accounted a pious and meritorious act to rescue a child from destruction, and afterwards adopt and maintain it; nevertheless, the vow by which the fifth child is devoted, is considered to be nearly as binding as any written or prescriptive law.

## *On the Proportion between the* PROTESTANTS *and* CATHOLICS, *of* IRELAND.

### *From Newenham on the Population of Ireland.*

THE political circumstances of Ireland have of late been peculiarly unfavourable to local collections of facts tending to elucidate the numerical proportions of the Protestants and Roman Catholics. And among those who appeared to me most likely to be in possession of these facts, I found an almost uniform and insuperable disinclination to communicate them.

It is true, that the individuals, with whose opinions I have been favoured, have enjoyed the very best opportunities of collecting authentic information on the subject in question; and are, moreover, persons who, I am thoronghly persuaded, would scrupulously decline to communicate any other. But mere opinions and assertions, however numerous and concurrent, and however high the respectability and unimpeachable the characters of their authors,

thors, obviously afford no fit ground for computation in the case before us. And to draw any thing like a general inference from a small number of facts, however strong, applicable, and well attested, would be altogether unreasonable and nugatory. The opinions and assertions to which I have alluded I shall give, without further preface or comment, in the words of their respective authors.

No. I. "As to the proportion of Roman Catholics to Protestants, I am convinced the former are at least as four to one. In the most protestant northern counties, the Roman Catholics are more numerous than the Protestants and Dissenters of every description. In Munster and in Connaught, they are as fifteen to one. And in Leinster, including even Dublin, they are as five to two upon the whole."

No. II. "I am persuaded that, in the diocese of Tuam, the Roman Catholic families are to the Protestant families, as sixty to one. The number of the Protestant families is not, on an average, six to each parish, if the following ones be excepted, viz. Castlebar, Ballinrobe, Westport, Newport, Athenry, and Tuam, in which the averaged number may be about fifty at the utmost. The number of Roman Catholic families in the parish of Tuam is 1413."

No. III. "The parish of Tullow, which is the most protestant one in the diocese of Kildare and Leighlin, but in which the Roman Catholics, notwithstanding, are to the Protestants as six to one, contains more Protestants than the diocese of Kildare, as far as it is comprised within that county; and yet there are in this tract not fewer than 12 parishes, many of which are superior to that of Tullow in extent and population.

"In the parish of St Mullin's in the diocese of Leighlin, there are 4000 Roman Catholics, and but *one* Protestant. In the town of Graigenamana, in the county of Kilkenny, there are between 4 and 500 houses and cabins; and yet only three or four inhabited by Protestants. In the parish of Allen, in the county of Kildare, though swarming with inhabitants, there is not one Protestant resident of any denomination. In the parish of Arlesin, in the Queen's county, there are between 18 and 19 hundred Roman Catholic families, and only 18 Protestant ones. A majority of the householders in the towns of Mountmellick, Portarlington, and Mountrath, are Protestants or Quakers; but a majority of the inhabitants are Roman Catholics."

Let us now pass from opinions and assertions to facts. The province of Leinster, it is well known, contains a much greater proportion of Protestants than either of the provinces of Connaught or Munster. The parish of Tullow, in that province, is considered as the most protestant one of the diocese to which it belongs. The number of families which it contained, in the year 1795, was 1009: of which only 154 were Protestants. So that it appears, that in the Protestant parish of Tullow, the Roman Catholics were to the Protestants as upwards of six to one.

By Mr Tighe's statistical survey it appears, that, in the county of Kilkenny, also in the province of Leinster, there were, in the year 1800, 17,212 families, of which only 941 were Protestants. So that in the county of Kilkenny the Roman Catholics were to the Protestant families, four years ago, as about 17 to 1.

In the diocese of Kilmacduagh, in the province of Connaught, the Roman Catholic families were, in 1795, to Protestant families, as near 52 to 1.

The number of Protestants in the county of Clare, in the year 1765, was 2476: that of the Roman Catholics

tholics 37,144*; so that the latter were to the former as 15 to 1.

In the parish of Carrigoline, in the county of Cork, there are 63 Protestant and 558 Roman Catholic families; or nearly 9 of the latter to 1 of the former.

In these different districts in the provinces of Leinster, Munster, and Connaught, the Roman Catholics appear to be, on an average, to the Protestants, as nearly 20 to 1. But the proportion of Roman Catholics to Protestants, in these districts, must be greater; as in almost all Protestant families there are Roman Catholic servants. In a great majority of the larger ones the Roman Catholic servants are, to the Protestant servants, as 3 to 1 at least. But in the Roman Catholic families, Protestant servants are very rarely found.

From the average of the proportions which the Roman Catholics bear to the Protestants in these returns, it would be altogether unreasonable to draw any inference respecting the numerical proportion of the former to the latter throughout the provinces of Leinster, Connaught, and Munster. I shall therefore confine myself to observing, that these returns having been casually obtained, and not selected from others, strongly tend, under the sanction of the opinions and assertions already cited, to authorise an opinion that the Roman Catholics are to the Protestants, in these three provinces, as at least 9 to 1.

Supposing then that such is really the case, and supposing likewise that in the nine northern counties and the city of Dublin, considered together, the Protestants constitute about two-fifths of the general population, which I suspect is above the truth; and that these counties, and the city of Dublin, contain about one third, or 1,800,000 of the people of Ireland, which they probably do. In that case, the number of Protestants therein would be about 720,000, and the number, in the other provinces, supposing that the Roman Catholics are therein as 9 to 1 to the Protestants, would be about 360,000; which being added to the former number, makes the number of Protestants, in Ireland, to be about 1,080,000; or somewhat less than one fifth part of the population of that country.

If then the numerical proportion of the Roman Catholics to the Protestants be as 4 to 1, according to my supposition, and as I persuade myself an accurate investigation of the subject would evince; the once persecuted, but now tolerated, and protected religion, must have gained most rapidly on the established one.

Sir William Petty tells us, that in the year 1672, the Roman Catholics were to the Protestants of Ireland, as 8 to 3†. But the war of the revolution, and its immediate effects, greatly reduced that proportion. In the year 1731, the former were not to the latter as 2 to 1. So that if they be now 4 to 1, they have more than doubled their proportion in about 70 years.

In the province of Ulster, the Protestants have greatly increased; but whether their increase has exceeded that of the Roman Catholics may I think be very safely doubted. I am not aware of any reason that can be assigned for its having done so; and I am persuaded that sufficient reasons might be assigned for the contrary.

Had not the Roman Catholics rapidly gained ground on the Protestants, in most parts of the provinces of Leinster, Munster, and Connaught, there certainly would have been room for no inconsiderable degree of surprise. Experience has proved that religious sects, instead of being exterminated,

* Mr Young's Tour, Vol. I. 412.

† Political Anatomy of Ireland, p. 376.

minated, have, for the most part, been extended by persecution. A knowledge of human nature, and of the peculiar disicipline of the church of Rome, will leave no doubt on our minds that the Roman Catholic religion is, of all others, the most likely to thrive in a state of proscription. And a little reflection on the history of Ireland will convince us, that the circumstances of that country have been peculiarly favourable to the extension of the persecuted religion.

The different natures of the sources, moreover, from whence the Roman Catholic and Protestant clergy derive their respective incomes, seem likely to have had the effects of increasing the zeal of the former in the work of proselytism, and, as far as worldly considerations could, abating that of the latter: and, an abatement of such zeal must necessarily have facilitated the advancement of the Roman Catholic on the Protestant religion, even though the latter had always been as powerfully supported and exalted as it now is by the erudition, the abilities, the benevolence, the decorous conduct, and the unaffected piety, for which great numbers of the Irish Protestant clergy, and especially their prelates, are confessedly conspicuous,

Besides associations, friendships, alliances, and a variety of cogent considerations, must, at all times, have greatly conduced to forward the conversion of a comparative small number of Protestants, of the lower and middle classes, scattered among multitudes of Roman Catholics; while similar preparatory circumstances and inducements could not have facilitated the conversion of Roman Catholics, if even the Protestant clergy had been as assiduous as the Roman Catholic clergy were; because, in no district, of any considerable extent, were the Roman Catholics so far outnumbered by the Protestants, as the latter were by the former, in most parts of the three provinces beforementioned.

When a proscribed, or merely tolerated religion greatly exceeds the established one, in point of numerical strength, the ordinary causes of the extension of the former will always be effectually aided by the concurrent operation of many others.

That the Roman Catholic religion, under its present circumstances, will continue to gain ground on the Protestant religion, in Ireland, is I think indisputable. The increasing wealth of the country, it is true, annually raises up a considerable number of individuals, from the middle classes of the community, consisting at present, in the three provinces beforementioned, chiefly of Roman Catholics, to the higher ones, consisting almost wholly of Protestants. But we find instances of conversion among the wealthy Roman Catholics, notwishstanding their association with Psotestants, extremely rare. They look to the attainment of much greater political weight by adhering to, than by forsaking the religion of their ancestors. By the former, they expect to stand among the leaders of a most powerful party; by the latter, they perceive that they must rely on their talents and good fortune alone for future political distinction.

## Biographical *account of* Dr Buchan.

Dr Buchan was born at Ancram, a village situate near Jedburgh, in Roxburghshire, in the year 1729. His father possessed a small landed estate there; in edition to which, he rented a farm appertaining to the Duke of Roxburgh. He used to say, that he had heard his grandfather

ther tell, that he remembered having entered through a window in the paternal mansion, on purpose to bring out the provision belonging to the family, at the time the house itself was garrisoned by the King's troops, and its in habitants driven into the fields. This persecution forced him to take refuge in Holland, where he lived some time, and returned with King William, who restored liberty both civil and religious. The Doctor, at an early period of life, had a turn for medical studies, and even while a boy at the grammar-school was accustomed to act both as surgeon and physician to the whole village.

He repaired however to the university of Edinburgh, with a view to the study of divinity. But the theological pursuits were soon interrupted by a predilection for mathematics, which proved more congenial to his mind. In this branch of science he soon acquired such proficiency as to be frequently employed as a private tutor to such of his fellow-students as were less precocious than himself. He was thus at once enabled and induced to continue at the university during a period of nine years. This long residence naturally led to an intimacy with many of the students of medicine who constitute the majority of those who frequent that celebrated seat of learning. He at the same time obtained considerable proficiency in botany, which delightful department of science continued to furnish a source of amusement for many years of his life.

Dr Buchan at length dedicated himself wholly to medicine, and enjoyed a familiar intercourse with all the celebrated professors of physic, particularly the late Dr Gregory, whose liberal opinions concerning medical knowledge had considerable influence on his own future views and conduct. In consequence of the invitation of a fellow-student, who had settled in Yorkshire, the Doctor joined him for some time in the practice of his art. A new incident tended not a little to extend his fame and improvement. On a vacancy for a physician to the Foundling Hospital, then established and supported by Parliament, at Ackworth, he declared himself a candidate, and was elected, after a public competition or trial of skill with ten professional men. While here, he laid the foundation of that knowledge of the diseases of children, which afterwards formed the subject of his inaugural dissertation, when he returned to Edinburgh to take a degree as a doctor of physic. The title was, "*De Infantum vita conservanda;*" it was much approved by the professors at that time, and now constitutes the substance of the first, and, as he used himself to think, the best chapter of that popular work, Domestic Medicine On his return to the capital of Scotland, for the purpose alluded to above, he courted the eldest daughter of Mr Peter, on his union with whom * he received a competent portion for those days, and, in addition to this, formed some very respectable connections, the lady in question being related, by means of her mother, whose name was Dunbar, to the family of Dundas, of Dundas, of which the present Lord Dundas † is the representative. He soon afterwards returned to resume the duties of his station at Ackworth, where his eldest son, now living was born. The Doctor remained there until the institution itself was annihilated. Parliament being at length convinced that foundling-hospitals did little or no good, withdrew

* They were married in York cathedral.

† This family is originally of English extraction, the ancestor having retired into Scotland on the Norman invasion.

drew the sixty-thousand pounds annually voted for its support, in consequence of which the whole fabric tumbled to pieces. On this, our young physician returned to Edinburgh, where he practised for several years with success, and occupied his hours of leisurer in composing the "Domestic Medicine; or, a Treatise on the Cure and Prevention of Diseases by Regimen and Simple Medicines."—This was first published in 1770, and dedicated to Sir John Pringle, then President of the Royal Society, with whom he was in some measure connected by his wife's family.

On the death of the late Dr Gregory, he became a candidate for the vacant chair; but the system of rendering professorships hereditary, which, though fortunately successful in that particular instance, must inevitably terminate in the ruin of whatever university adopts it as a rule of conduct, presented an invincible obstacle to his success. A bequest from a scientific man, equally honourable to both parties, now pointed out a new career. The celebrated Fergusson, for many years a lecture on natural philosophy, on his death bequeathed his apparatus, at that time considered as the best in Great Britain, to the Doctor; and if not absolutely as a legacy, yet on terms so beneficial, that he considered it prudent to accept of it. Immediately after this, he himself delivered two courses of lectures annually for three years, with the assistance of his son, who performed the experimental part, to very crowded audiences, the apartment, which held about two hundred persons, being always full. These philosophical avocations probably injured his professional pursuits, as mankind in general conceive, and perhaps not unjustly, that the practice of such an important profession as that of medicine, is alone sufficient to occupy the mind of any one individual.

The very general diffusion, as well as great celebrity, of his work, having rendered the Doctor's name by this time exceedingly popular, he determined to try his fortune on the wider theatre of London. On setling here, he accordingly disposed of his philosophical apparatus on advantageous terms to Dr Lettsom, and began to practise under the happiest auspices. His success was at first very flattering; and could he have withstood the allurements of company, which his convivial talents always enlivened, and considered the healing-art merely as a lucrative profession, he might have undoubtedly amassed an ample fortune. But he too frequently preferred the society of an agreeable friend to the calls of business, the importunities of patients, and the pursuit of wealth. He however exerted himself at times; and a little before the late memorable Revolution, he repaired to Dunkirk, where he restored a rich merchant to health, after his case had been relinquished as hopeless by all the French physicians. His *magnum opus*, the Domestic Medicine, has experienced a sale far exceeding that of any other medical work ever published before in this island. It has gone through no less than nineteen editions, many of which consisted of six and seven thousand copies each, and still enjoys as extensive a circulation as ever. In addition to this, it has been frequently republished in America, and has been repeatedly imitated, copied, and pirated, in various ways, as well as under different forms, both in Ireland and in this country. It is translated into every language of Europe, and even into the Russian. The reputation of the author appears to have been still greater on the Continent than in his native country. From the late Empress of all the Russias, the

the munificent rewarder of every species of merit, he received a large medallion, of pure gold, which has been seen and admired by the author of this article, with a complimentary letter, written at her Imperial Majesty's express desire, by the Chancellor D'Osterman. He also received many other complimentary letters, some of them accompanied with liberal presents, both from individuals and societies in several of the West India Islands, expressive of their sense of the many and great advantages derived from his work. In addition to this, he published a Treatise on the Venereal Disease, which has passed through three editions. His last work is entitled Advice to Mothers *, and on this, as on all other occasions, he pleads the cause of the best interests of humanity. We understand that he has left a considerable quantity of manuscripts, and some written memorials of his own life, which will probably be edited by his son, who has lately published a Treatise written with no small share of medical acumen. The leading trait of the Doctor's character was benevolence and good-will to men of every description, if we except the apothecaries! That class of people he considered as degrading the science of medicine, by converting it into a sordid calling, and too often preventing any good that could be expected from it, by loading the stomach of the patient with drugs, without having previously formed any just idea of the nature of the disease. This benevolent temper, which could never resist the call, or even the appearance, of distress, greatly injured the Doctor's pecuniary circumstances; although it is now ascertained, that even in his latter years, he was in the annual receipt of considerably more money than any person imagined. Dr Buchan possessed a pleasing exterior, a fine countenance, great suavity of manners, and an astonishing fund of amusing anecdotes, which he told in such a manner as to delight his associates.

He also enjoyed that grand *desideratum*, an excellent constitution, and never experienced any serious illness until within a year of his death, when his health began at first to decline, but gradually, and without precipitation.

The disorder which proved fatal, at length assumed an alarming appearance, and indicated symptoms of water in the chest. He never once complained, or shewed any apprehensions of death, of whose approach, he was, however, perfectly sensible, and even frequently spoke of the event without emotion. He was abroad on the very day previously to his death, which occurred on the 25th of February 1805, at nine o'clock in the evening, in an attempt to reach his bed from the sofa, where he had just been reclining, and talking in his usual placid manner. Even the last act of his life was peculiarly felicitous, having expired in this manner without any previous confinement, in the full possession of all his faculties, without any considerable degree of pain, and almost without a groan! Thus died Dr Buchan, in the 76th year of his age.

The life of this great physician will constitue an epoch in the history of medicine. Since the first appearance of the Domestic Medicine, pharmacy has in a great measure been rescued from the jargon of a barbarous technology, and the regular bred and meritorious practitioner distinguished from the vile retailer of spurious compounds. The science itself has has also been laid open

* Advice to Mothers on the subject of their own Health, and on the Means of Promoting the Health, Strength, and Beauty of their Offspring. 1 vol. 8vo.

open, simplified, and diffused; so that the most useful of all arts, by constituting a branch of general education, will become at once better known and more respected. The offspring of Dr Buchan consisted of three children, two of whom are still alive. A boy called William, who was long and deeply lamented by him, died in his infancy. A daughter, Helen, and a son A. P. Buchan, M.D*. a member of the Royal College of Physicians, London, survive him.—His remains were interred, on Wednesday the 6th of March, 1805, in the cloisters of Westminster Abbey, next to those of the celebrated Dr Jebb.

## Scottish Review.

I. Sermons by *Sir H. Moncrieff Wellwood*, Bart. W. Whyte and J. Anderson. 1805. 8s. 6d.

WRITERS of sermons have of late had frequent reason to complain that their publications have not been received with the degree of attention which their merit deserved. This has been generally ascribed to a blameable indifference, on the part of most readers, to the subjects on which they treat. Without attempting entirely to exculpate them from this charge, we may observe several circumstances which seem to preclude the necessity of a very copious supply. Besides, that sermons can rarely contain much that is new, a single course is understood to include a complete summary of moral and religious duty. There is not the same occasion, as in the case of treatises on detached branches of science, for the student to peruse a multitude of volumes. One or two such courses, well digested, promise to convey every requisite degree of information. Accordingly readers of sermons usually content themselves with selecting a few of established reputation, and seldom enquire very solicitously about any new publications that make their appearance in this department.

Our author seems fully sensible of the obstacles which these circumstances oppose to the popularity of the present volume.

"He addresses them chiefly to the congregation, for whom they were originally prepared. Of the thirty-four years during which he has held the office of a minister, he has officiated during thirty among them. To promote their present and eternal interests ought to be the object of his life: And, accustomed, as they are, to his manner of stating the doctrines and the duties of religion, he allows himself to believe, that, among them this volume will neither be useless nor unacceptable." Pref. p. xi.

Although this parish be perhaps the most numerous in Scotland, yet we have no doubt that the name of the author, as well as their intrinsic merit, will ensure them a more extensive circulation.

Sermons may be divided into sensible and eloquent; there being few to which both these descriptions can be justly applied. The present are undoubtedly to be ranked in the former of these classes. They are distinguished by strength of thinking, accompanied with plainness, and even homeliness of expression. The author seems to excel particularly in the close connection which the different

* Dr A. P. Buchan is author of an excellent and well-written treatise, intitled "Practical Observations concerning Sea-Bathing; to which are added, Remarks on the Warm Bath." Those best acquainted with his merits, pronounce him already equal to his father in his best days.

ferent parts of his discourse bear to each other. Some general idea is generally laid hold of at the beginning, of which in the course of it he never for a moment loses sight.

These sermons are on the following subjects:—I. The Unequal allotments of Providence. II. The minute improvement of the Blessings of Providence. III. Self denial. IV. The form of Godliness. V. Christian Faith and Morality. VI. The Result of Good and of Bad Affections. VII The Inheritance of a Good Man's children. VIII. The Doctrine of Grace. IX. The conduct of Providence to Good Men. X. The General Spirit and Effects of Christianity. XI. and XII. The Universal Promulgation of Christianity. XIII. Prospects of Futurity. XIV. The Cultivation of Personal Religion.

One kind of sermon occurs so frequently as to be almost characteristic of the author. It is that in which some general maxim or observation is laid down and applied successively to different branches of moral and religious doctrine. Of these the 1st, 2d, 6th, and 7th, afford examples, which are conducted with great ingenuity and closeness of illustration.

The author of these sermons has been generally classed among what are called popular preachers, who have been sometimes accused of an attachment to mystical doctrines in preference to the practical duties of Christianity. We see no ground for such a complaint in the present volume. Good sense, knowledge of the world, and of the business of life, are throughout conspicuous.

As a specimen, we extract the following passage:

"Every man of understanding acknowledges our obligation to apply our talents to the business of human life, or to the ends of our probation for the world to come, as long as we are capable of exercising them. It is impossible seriously to doubt that our personal duties must be indispensible, as long as we have the means of fulfilling them.

"But when the doctrine is applied to practice, we are apt to take very different views of the subject. Though it is a truth fully established by experience, that it is best for every man, in the present life, and most for his advantage as an immortal being, to persevere in the active duties of his condition, as long as it is possible for him to discharge them; there is nothing which men more generally allow to dwell on their thoughts through life, than the idea, that a time shall come, long before they die, when they shall be able to relinquish their usual or professional occupations, and to spend the rest of their time, without labour or exertion, in the enjoyment of their private or domestic situations. Few in comparison are ever permitted to realise an idea, which so many allow to occupy their imaginations. Of those who are enabled to relinquish their labours, if their lives are prolonged, the greater part have reason to repent what they have done. By the change produced on their habits, and by want of use, their faculties are gradually impaired, as the sources of their activity are diminished; and they meet with chagrin and disappointment, where they expected to have found nothing but satisfaction or tranquillity.

"I do not say that those who have retired from the bustle of affairs cannot employ, and employ faithfully, "the fragments" both of their health and of their vigour. They have certainly much in their power, if they consecrate their leisure to real duties, and keep their talents occupied as they ought to be; much which relates to the discipline of their own minds; much which can be done in domestic life, for the advantage of the old or of the young, to whom they can give their attention or their time; much by which they can be useful to those whose characters they can influence, whose hands they can strengthen; whom they can assist in their difficulties, or comfort in their sickness, or furnish with the means either of prosperity or of religion.

"Those who apply the decline of life to such purposes as these, do not retire in vain from the bustle of the world. If they embrace heartily the opportunities

nities of usefulness which they still possess, nothing is lost which they are capable of attaining. That which they do in secret for the glory of God, or for the advantage of their fellow-mortals, is sanctified by the prayer of faith, and shall be accounted to them as good service, in "the day of Christ."

"But though I say this, I have no hesitation to add, that those who abide by their active occupations from a sense of duty, and who employ the last portion of their talents where they spent their vigour, have much better reason to expect, that both their usefulness and their personal comfort shall be continued as long as they live.

"No good man's conscience will suggest to him that he ought to become weary of his labours. He who delights in the service on which his duty or his usefulness depends, can have no wish to relinquish it. He is anxious to persevere in the duties which he can in any degree accomplish, even when he is conscious of his decline. He looks up to God, to whom he thinks he shall soon return; and though he knows that his summons to die cannot be distant, it continues to be the first wish of his heart, that he may be found employing the last portions of his health and life, in the duties of his proper place.

"A man who is able to preserve this happy temper of mind to the end, has a far better prospect, than other habits could afford him of possessing the vigour of his faculties to his last hour; and therefore of extending his labours and his usefulness far beyond the ordinary term of human activity. He hears the voice of his Master, urging his duties and his fidelity on his conscience, till his strength is gone: And he does not lose the impression of it, till the last spark of life expires."—P. 63.

II. *Wallace*, or the *Vale of Ellerslie*, by *John Finlay*. 2d edition, 1804. 6s. Chapman. Glasgow.

THE object of this poem is to describe the early years of Wallace, and the growth of that martial and heroic character, which raised him to so distinguished a place in the annals of his country. This disposition is supposed to be in a great measure innate, and to be first unfolded in the contemplation of the sublime objects of nature. It is farther cherished by the songs of chivalry recited to him by his mother, and to which he is represented as listening with the utmost delight. The finishing stroke is then given by an ancient minstrel, with whom he meets accidentally in the course of his lonely rambles. From him Wallace receives an account of the calamities which Scotland had suffered from the invasion and tyranny of the English, and is named as her destined deliverer. Immediately after which the poem closes.

The plan bears evidently a strong resemblance to that of Beattie's Minstrel. Mr Finlay indeed disavows the having that poem at all in his eye, an assertion which we are no way inclined to doubt. But where a man has greatly admired any composition of another, he may be led to an unintentional and unconscious imitation; and we doubt much, if the Minstrel had not existed, whether the present poem would have been precisely what it is.

It must be confessed, that Beattie's place was better adapted to the end he had in view. The scenery of external nature is the school of the poet, rather than of the hero. An enthusiast, wandering thro' the wilds and solitudes of nature, is not precisely the idea which we are accustomed to associate with the name of the great champion of Scottish freedom. To have entered however upon the detail of his actions, would have led our author into too wide a field, and into one which he might not have cultivated with equal success, as the more limited one to which he has confined himself.

Without pursuing any farther an invidious comparison, we may observe that the present poem discovers very con-

considerable powers of description, and of that kind of description which the subject peculiary required. This will appear from the following examples:—

To him the mystic shapes the float at Eve,
Dim and remote on the sun's dying beam,
When fairy films the swimming eye deceive,
And gloaming trembles on the haunted stream,
Unfolded all their forms in wavering gleam;
Till doubt and wonder fill his throbbing breast,
Whether the pageant were an airy dream
That bathes its pinions in the rosy west,
When peace descends on earth, and mortals sink to rest.

Or if to him aerial sprites reveal'd
The forms unseen of human ken that fly,
When music murmurs in the wood and field,
And soothes to slumbers with its lullaby,
And pictures of another world sail by
And charm with glamoury—Lo! far away
To the dim confine of the northern sky
They sail, ere from the ocean bursts the day,
And leave th' astonish'd wight in wonder and dismay,— P. 25.

Yet lov'd he nature in her wildest mood,
Her cliffed rocks, magnificently high,
Her mountains, awful, vast, sublime, and rude,
Lifting their giant crests amid the sky;
Interminable glens that mock the eye;
More than the gentler beauties of the dale,
More than the flocks that on the greensward lie,
The shepherd piping in his peaceful vale,
The cot half-hid in trees wav'd by the noiseless gale.

Lo! where, reclin'd beneath the vaulted steep,
Lonely he lies, and marks with wistful gaze,
The broad red sun descend into the deep,
And shed around his fiery flood of rays,
Till dy'd in blood, the paths of ether blaze;
And silently the breaking surges lave
The slumbering shore; and faint the last beam plays
On the still bosom of the dark'ning wave;
And awful night descends, deep, silent as the grave. P. 36.

To notes that truth and fiction rudely wove,
Oh! may their souls in thrilling transports move,
And pause to list the wonders of the strain;
How oft on War's red field, The *Wallace* strove,
And strode in terror o'er the heaps of slain,
Till death, with night came down, o'ershadowing the plain. P. 15.

The poet seems thoroughly master of the stanza in which he writes. He understands completely what forms its chief requisite, an energetic and impressive close. There is scarcely a feeble concluding line in the whole poem.

The smaller poems are of unequal merit, and few of them come up to that of the principal one. The Castle is one of the best, and is strongly impressed with the author's taste for the gloomy picturesque. His love songs are those with which we were least pleased; neither tender nor playful themes seem well suited to his muse.

## Scottish Literary Intelligence.

*Works lately Published.*

JAMESON's Mineralogical Survey of Dumfrieshire. 8vo. 6s.

The Edinburgh Review. No. XI.

History and description of the Orkney Islands, by G. A. Barry, Minister of Shapinsa, 1 volume. 4to. 1l. 11s. 6d.

The Works of the late Reverend Moses Browne, Chaplain of Morden College, Blackheath, and Vicar of Olney, Bucks; containing, "An Essay on the Universe, in Four Books; and his Sunday Thoughts, in Four Parts," with his last corrections and improvements. 12mo. 5s.

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Sir William Forbes's life of Dr Beattie will soon make its appearance. The distinguished and amiable characters, both of the writer and subject of this memoir, cannot fail to make it the object of a high degree of interest.

Lord Selkirk has in the press a treatise on "the Causes of Emigration from the Highlands of Scotland."

The translation of a system of Botany from the German of Wildenow is announced for speedy publication.

A new edition of Smollett's works, in six volumes octavo, is printing by Mundell and Son.

Mr Mudford, author of several popular little works, has begun "a course of English readings." In his preliminary Lecture, he has treated of the requisites of elocution under the different heads of emphasis, pauses, tones, and gestures, each of which he appears to have studied attentively. Should Mr Mudford succeed in improving his audience in these particulars, he will, no doubt, have rendered them an important service.

## Books and Pamphlets published in London, March 1805.

*Biography.*

ORIGINAL Anecdotes of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, his Family, his Court, his Ministers, his Academies, and his Literary Friends; by M. Thiebault. 2 vols. 8vo.

*Commerce.*

The Merchant's Assistant. By Christopher Dubost. 7s. boards.

*Drama.*

The School for Reform; or, How to rule a husband; a comedy, as performed at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden; written by Thos Morton. 2s6d.

To Marry or Not to Marry; a comedy, as performed at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden; written by Mrs Inchbald.

The Honest Soldier; a comedy; written by the late J. H. Colls. 3s

Too many Cooks, a Musical Farce, as performed at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden; written by James Kenny. 1s. 6d.

The Natural Son; a Tragedy; written by James Mason. 3s.

The English Fleet in 1342; an historical Comic Opera, as performed at the Theatre Royal Covent Garden; written by Thomas Dibdin. 2s. 6d.

*Education.*

An Attempt to adapt Sacred History to the Capacities of Children; by R. Burgh, M. A. 1s.

*History.*

The Asiatic Annual Register; or, a View of the History of Hindostan, and of the Politics, Commerce, and Literature of Asia, for the year 1803. 8vo, 13s. boards.

The history of the Peloponnesian War, translated from the Greek of Thucydides; to which are added, Three Preliminary discourses, by William Smith, D. D. Dean of Chester; Fourth Edition; 2 vols. 8vo.

*Law.*

The trial at Large of Colonel Robert Passingham and John Edwards, for a conspiracy

Conspiracy against George Townshend Forrester, Esq; before Lord Ellenborough, February 1805. by Robert Johnson, Esq. 1s.

*Medical.*

A Report of the Progress of Vaccine Inoculation in Bengal; by John Schoolbred. 2s.

An Examination of that Part of the Evidence relative to Cow Pox, which was delivered to a Committee of the House of Commons by two of the Surgeons of St. Thomas's Hospital; with Remarks on inoculated Small Pox; by W. R. Rogers; with a coloured engraving. 2s.

A practical Treatise on the Efficacy and Safety of Stizolobium, or Cowheige (the Dolichos Pruriens of Linnæus,) internally administered in Diseases occasioned by Worms; the sixth edition, considerably enlarged; by William Chamberlaine. 3s.

*Military.*

A Chart of comparative Rank between the Army, Navy, Marines, Ordnance, Artillery, Engineers, Militia, Medical Staff, Governors, and the East India Company's Military, Fiscal, and Commercial, appointments; the whole coloured; distinguishing Commissions from the King. 15s.

Proceedings of a General Court Martial on the Conduct of Lieutenant Colonel Robert Rollo Gillespie, of the 24th regiment of Light Dragoons, held at Colchester in June and July 1804. 3s.

*Miscellaneous.*

Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh; Third and concluding Part of the Fifth Volume, 4to. 7s. 6d. boards.

A Letter from Philodiddle to the Public on the Management of the Opera, 1s.

Remarks on the late Address of William Baker, Esq. M. P. to the Freeholders of the County of Hertford. 6d.

The London Register, Historical, Political and Literary. 8vo. vol. 1. (to be continued Quarterly) 8s. 6d. boards.

Censura Literaria; containing Titles and Abstracts of scarce Books, original Disquisitions, and Articles of Literary Biography; partly in Imitation of the Plan of Oldy's British Librarian. No. 1. (to be continued occasionally) 2s. 6d.

Patriotic Fund; The Second Report of the committee, containing Minutes of their Proceedings from 1st of March, 1804, to March 1. 1805. 2s.

The First Part of the Strictures on the Practice and Conduct of Attornies, and other Public Characters, &c. &c. &c.; by Robert Holloway, Gent. 3s.

Observations on Charity Schools; by Catherine Cappe. 4s. 6d.

Observations on Lord Castlereagh's Speech, 10th July, 1804; and on the State of the East India Company's Affairs. 1s. 6d.

A letter to the Rev. George Burder, occasioned by his Sermon on Lawful Amusements preached January 10. 1805. 1s.

A Dissertation on the best Means of Civilizing the Subjects of the British Empire in India, and of diffusing the Christian Religion throughout the Eastern World; by the Rev. William Cockburn. 4s. This Dissertation gained the Prize given to the University of Cambridge by the Rev. Claud Buchanan, Vice President of the College at Calcutta.

An Essay on the Spirit and Influence of the Reformation by Luther; by C. Villers; translated by B. Lambert. 8vo. 9s. boards.

*Naval.*

The Transport's Monitor; being a Practical Treatise on the Duties of Masters of Transports, Victuallers, &c.; by Henry Abbott, Agent. 6s 6d. boards.

*Novels.*

The Sports of the Genii; by Mrs John Hunter, embellished with Fourteen Engravings. 4to

Confessions of the Nun of St. Omers, a Tale; by Charlotte Dacre, better known by the name of Rosa Matilda. 3 vols. 13s. 6d. sewed.

Donalda; or, the Witches of Glencheil, a Romance. 2 vols. 10s.

*Philosophy.*

Volume the Fifth, including the Nineteenth Part, of the Abridgement of the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. 4to. 2l. 2s. boards.

*Political.*

Thoughts on the Object of the Foreign Subsidy; by John Wheatley, Esq. 1s. 6d.

Secret Memoirs of the Court of Great Britain, during the latter Part of the

Year 1788 and the begining of 1789. 3s.

Parallele de la Conduit du Gouvermens Britannique et Espagnol. 1s. 6d.

*Poetry.*

An Epistle to James Barry, Esq.; containing Strictures on some of the Works of that celebrated Artist; by Francis Burroughs, Esq. 3s. 6d.

A Poem on the Restoration of Learning in the East; which obtained Mr Buchannan's Prize; by Charles Grant, M.A. of Magdalen College, Cambridge. 3s. 6d.

*Theology.*

A Letter to John Clayton, the Elder, occasioned by his counter and impartial Statement; by Obadiah Christian, one of the People called Quakers. 6d.

An Address to Lord Teignmouth, President of the British and Foreign Bible Society, occasioned by his Address to the Clergy of the Church of England; by a clergyman. 1s.

Letters occasioned by a Pamphlet recently published by Rowland Hill, A.M. intitled "A Warning to Professors;" containing Observations on the Nature and Tendency of Public Amusements, &c.; by D. W. Harvey, Esq. 2s.

A connected and chronological View of the Prophecies relating to the Christian Church; by Robert Nares, Archdeacon of Stafford, &c. 8vo. 7s. 6d. boards.

A Fast Sermon preached at Bath, February 20, 1805, by the Rev. Edward Poulett, 1s.

War inconsistent with Christianity; a Fast Sermon, preached May 25, 1804, and Feb. 20, 1805, being the Twelfth Year of the present War; by the Rev. R. Warner; the Fourth Edition, with large Additions. 2s.

A second Serious Exhortation to attend Public Worship on the Lord's Day. 12mo. 38 Pages.

A View of the Objection of Mr Gibbon, that our Lord foretold his Second Coming, by N. Nesbet, M.A. 1s. 6d.

The fatal Use of the Sword considered, in a Sermon preached at Birgmingham on the last Fast Day; by the Rev. Spencer Madan. 1s.

A View of Religion; by Hannah Adams; a new Edition, with Additions; to which is prefixed, an essay on Truth; by Andrew Fuller. 8vo. 6s. boards

Pastoral Cautions; an Address to the late Mr Thomas Hopkins, when ordained Pastor of the Church in Eagle-street, Red-Lion-square; now published and enlarged; by Abraham Booth. 1s.

The Divine Visitations considered, in a Sermon preached on the last Fast Day. 1s.

Sermons, chiefly designed to recommend the practical Morality of the Gospel, and intended for the Use of Family Devotion; by a Layman. 8vo. 5s boards.

The Rev. Adam Clarke's new and considerably enlarged Edition of Claude Fleury's History of the Ancient Israelites, with an Account of their Manners, Customs, &c.; with a Life and fine Portrait of Claude Fleury. 12mo 4s. 6d.

Archbishop Leighton's whole Works, Vol. I. II. III. (to be completed in Four Vols.) elegantly printed, with a fine Portrait, Life, &c.; by the Rev. Erasmus Middleton. 8vo. 7s per vol.

*Topography.*

A Selection of Views of Bath, Bristol, Malvern, Cheltenham, and Weymouth, with Descriptions; No. I. (to be continued Monthly, and be comprized in Twelve Numbers. 1l. 1s.

The Costume of Great Britain, in a Series of Coloured Engravings; the Subjects collected and executed, and the descriptions written, by W. H. Pyne; No. I. containing Five Plates (to be continued every three Months, and be comprized in Twelve Numbers.) 15s.

## Literary Intelligence, English *and* Foreign.

Mr Arthur Young intends in future to publish his valuable Agricultural Journal, the Annals of Agriculture, quarterly, instead of monthly. The Numbers will appear on the first days of June, September, December, and March, of every year.

The most striking feature in the literary

terary intelligence of the current month has been the suspension of the Printing Trade, owing, to a demand of increased wages on the part of the Pressmen. It has, in consequence, been with great difficulty that the Proprietors of the different Magazines and Reviews have been able to prepare them for publication.

A new edition of Mr Pilkington's Dictionary of Painters, edited by Mr Fuseli, is nearly ready for publication.

A new edition of the Poems of Ossian, containing the Poetical Works of James Macpherson, Esq. in Prose and Verse, with Notes and Illustrations by Malcolm Laing, Esq. in two volumes octavo, printed by Ballantyne, of Edinburgh, is nearly ready for publication.

The Poems of Ossian are to be further illustrated by the publication of the Report of the Highland Society of Scotland, respecting the authenticity of these Poems, drawn up by Henry Mackenzie, Esq. This work will form one volume octavo, with *fac-similes* of ancient Gaelic MSS.

Mr E. H. Seymour is preparing for the press, Remarks on Shakespeare, in which will be exhibited various readings from the early quartos, which appear preferable to those adopted by the last editor, to introduce order into the arrangement, to note grammatical anomalies of every kind, and to attempt an exposition of passages occult or dubious. This work is expected to form two octavo volumes, and they are to be enriched with observations selected from the MS. of the late Lord Chedworth.

The Society of Arts in the Adelphi are about to publish another Volume of their transactions.

Mr M. Callum has circulated Proposals for publishing by Subscription, Travels in the Island of Trinidad. The author intends to show the local and political importance of that island to this country, and to point out the advantages which would result from a population of emigrant Scotch Highlanders.

Mr Hayley has in the press an elegant volume of Original Ballads, founded chiefly on anecdotes relating to animals.

A curious small volume will appear in the course of the ensuing month, printed from a MS. written by the late Dr Samuel Johnson, and containing an account of his early years, and first recollections in infancy. It is the fragment of a larger work, and was preserved from the flames by Barber, the Doctor's black servant. The original has lately been deposited in the Museum of Mr Wright, of Litchfield.

Mr Young, surgeon, of North Audley-street, will publish, early in May, an important work on the subject of Cancer, intitled *Sarcoschirrologia*; containing an Analytical Inquiry into the Nature and Action of Schirrus, in order to establish a regular mode of curing that disease in its various stages, by means of natural separation.

Mr Peterkin, the eminent Master of Cromwell House Academy, at Huntingdon, has just finished a Paraphrase, in measured blank verse, on the Prophecies of Isaiah. He proposes to publish it by subscription in the course of the ensuing month.

Dr Millar, of Doncaster, announces a History of that place, and of the adjacent towns and villages, including Pontefract, Barnsley, Rotherham, Blyth, Bawtry Thorne, &c. with anecdotes of eminent persons. The names of subscribers are received by W. Sheardown, of Doncaster, and by Mr Miller, of Albemarle-street.

A new edition of Bruce's Travels, in seven volumes octavo, will shortly make its appearance.

A complete work on Practical Perspective is nearly ready for publication.

Mr F. Nash will soon have ready for publication, from drawings by himself, a Series of Views, interior and exterior, of the Collegiate Chapel of St. George, at Windsor, with illustrative Plates, explanatory of its Architecture and Ornaments, and accompanied by a concise Account, historical and descriptive.

Mr Arrowsmith, all of whose admirable publications entitle him to the gratitude of his country, has just published a beautiful Map of the principal Triangles of the Geodetical Operations in Portugal in 1803. These important operations have been interrupted in Portugal by the war, but it is expected that they will be renewed and completed.

Mr Stephenson, of Horncastle, is about to publish a work elucidating the System now pursued by Surveyors in old and new Inclosures, and by Commissioners and Surveyors in new Inclosures.

Two

Two volumes of Discourses, by the late Rev. T. Kenrick, are preparing for the press, and will be published as soon as possible, at the request of his congregation. They have been selected from the author's manuscripts, with the assistance of his late colleague in the conduct of the academical institution in Exeter.

Major Rainsford has in the press a work, with plates, relative to the Island of St Domingo, of which the public has formed considerable expectations, in consequence of his peculiar acquaintance with the subject, and the confirmation of his predictions relative to that unhappy country.

An Analysis of Horsemanship, dedicated to his Royal Highness the Duke of York, will very soon be presented to the public, in three volumes octavo, with many plates, by Mr John Adams, whose practical knowledge of the subject is well known to most of the first characters of the kingdom.

Two Unitarian Sermons on the Lord's Supper are in the press of J. Black, Yarmouth, and will be published in the course of the ensuing month.

A Collection of Original Anecdotes of Frederick the Great, his Family, his Court, his Ministers, his Academies, and his Literary Friends, the Result of twenty years familiar intercourse with that Prince, from the pen of M. Thiebault, will be shortly published in English. The plan of the work will be similar to Boswell's admirable Life of Johnson.

The talents of that ingenious sporting-engraver, Mr John Scott, are now busily exercised in the execution of two splendid subjects on hunting; namely, the Fox breaking Cover, and the Death of the Fox. The same distinguished artist is likewise retained upon a continuation of the Sportsman's Cabinet, under the title of Delineation of Animals of the chace, from Paintings by P. Reinagle, A.R.A.

The Royal Society have adjudged Count Rumford's medal for discoveries respecting heat to Mr John Leslie, author of an Inquiry into the Nature and Propagation of Heat.

A machine has been constructed for expeditiously stripping and plucking the fur from skins, an operation hitherto performed by manual labour.

Two inventions have been announced to the manufacturing world, of machinery for spinning, doubling, &c. threads of various materials.

Two large cotton manufactories are erecting on the river Dee, in North Wales.

In the neighbourhood of Glasgow, some works have been just established for the manufacture of iron-wire from the raw materials.

An opera has been just brought out on the French Stage, the subject of which is a part of the life and sufferings of our immortal Milton.

The Prince Nicolas Esterhazy has bought the collection of copper-plates belonging to Anton Kollowrath, at Prague, consisting of twelve thousand pieces, for forty-five thousand fiorins.—They were sent, in November, to Eisen-stadt, in Hungary. They are said to be designed for the foundation of an academy of the fine arts, which this liberal Prince has signified his intention of erecting at Pest, for the benefit of his countrymen of Hungary.

The King of Prussia has lately issued regulations for the education of the children of his soldiers. The manner in which the Prussian army is regulated enables the soldiers to marry, and to bring up a family, more than any other military service in Europe.

M. Von. Gobhard, of Inspruck, procured a chamois-hunter to ascend the Ortler Spitze, which lies between the territories of Saln and Drassui, in the Vintschau. This summit, which is the heart of the Glaciers, had never hitherto been ascended. By the barometer it is found to be 14,466 Parisian feet above the level of the Mediterranean sea. Next to Montblanc, which, according to Saussure, is 14,556 feet above the sea, it is the highest mountain in the Old World, as the Gross Glockner, which is reckoned the highest mountain of the Tyrol, is, according to Von Moll, only 12,976 feet high.

Baron Von Doornick has discovered a substance composed of an absorbent earth, and some other ingredients, which is more effectual in washing, &c. than soap.

M. Humboldt, the celebrated traveller, is in Paris, engaged in scientific pursuits. He is soon to proceed to Italy, where he means to undertake a series of Experiments on the chemical ana-

analysis of air, the electricity of volcanoes, and the intensity of the magnetic fluid. These experiments are necessary in order to form a comparison with those which he made on the Andes.

M. Boupland, who travelled in the Andes with Humboldt, is at Paris, preparing for the press a work on the equinoctial plants.

Kotzebue has been arrested in Italy, it is supposed by the order of Bonaparte, in consequence of the freedom of his remarks upon the present state of France.

The booksellers of Frankfort have been obliged to appear before an extraordinary committee of the magistracy of that city, to take an oath not to print or sell any work contrary to religion, or which may be aimed against a foreign power or its government.

C. Ciboin has discovered that silkworms may be supported by collecting the autumnal foliage of the mulberry tree, drying it artificially, and restoring it to its former freshness by immerging it in hot water.

The Philadelphia Company of Booksellers have awarded a gold medal to Mr Young, of the Delaware paper mills, for eleven reams of excellent printing paper, manufactured of mulberry-roots, and bags made of guma bark.

A great subterraneous fire has burst forth near the Russian fortress Phanagoria, on the peninsula of Taman, where a similar phenomenon took place some years since.

The Emperor of Russia has ordered, that at all the universities, and other public schools, meteorological observations shall be regularly made, and the results made public.

The sums allotted by the Russian Government for defraying the expences of the academies, universities, &c. amounted in 1804, to 2,149,213 rubles; besides the gift of 66,000 rubles towards erecting the new university at Charkow. Considerable donations and subscriptions likewise continue to be received from patriotic individuals in various parts of the empire, towards the endowment of schools and other institutions for the diffusion of knowledge amongst every class of the nation.

M. Hasemann, a learned Sanscrit scholar, has discovered in the National Library at Paris, MSS. of the first and fourth veda, which Volney supposed to be eight hundred years old. When the Pope visited the National Library on the 14th of January last, the early specimens of printing, and many of the most curious MSS. were shewn to him; amongst others, the Chinese Inscription, according to which Christianity was introduced into China in the seventh century; the Poem written by the late Emperor of China; the Latin Bible of Charles the Bald, with illuminations, the only remaining specimen of the ancient purple colour; the Prayer-book of Anne of Bretagne, each page of which contains the coloured figure of a plant, with its appropriate insects; the richly-ornamented Prayer book of Louis XIV., and the Original Manuscript of Telemachus.

M. Millin, the celebrated archeologist, in his late tour through the southern provinces of France, has collected two hundred inedited remains of antiquity, and above one thousand Roman inscriptions, many of which are very interesting.

An Icelandic Dictionary, composed by Biorn Halderston, a late-deceased Icelandic Clergyman, will shortly be published at the expence of the Danish Government. We may likewise soon expect a Critical Grammar of the Icelandic Language from M. Arent, a native of Altona, who was sent by the Danish Government to the northern parts of the Danish dominions, for the purpose of collecting plants for a *Flora Danica*, and who during his Travels, studied the Icelandic language, and collected many curious Runic inscriptions.

Six of the most eminent physicians in France, Chaussier, Leclerc, Bailly, Husson, Nysten, and Hamel, have been sent to Spain, to inquire into the nature of the epidemical disease, which has raged with such violence in that country, and to endeavour to find out the most effectual remedy for preventatives against it. The King of Prussia has likewise sent thither, for the same purpose, Professor Reich, of Erlangen; and, in case of the Professor's death, will settle a pension of six hundred rixdollars per annum on his widow.

The merchants of Moscow have founded, in that city, a Commercial School, the expences of which will amount to fifteen thousand rubles.

Bonaparte has founded a professorship of the modern Greek language in the

the *College de France* at Paris. The celebrated L'Adese de Villoisin has been appointed professor.

The Icelandic moss, which had lately been discovered in Spain, has likewise been found in the district of Concossola, in the Italian Republic.

A complete collection of all the works of the celebrated Herder will shortly be published at Tubingen.

# Poetry.

## LOVE ABUSED.

A SCOTTISH SONG. Tune—*Ettrick banks.*

THE gloamin frae the welkin high
Had chac'd the bonny gouden gleam;
The curtain'd East, in crimson dye,
Hung heavy owr the tinted stream:
The wild rose, blushin' on the brier,
Was set wi' draps o' shinin' dew,—
As big an' clear, the burstin' tear
That row'd i' Betty's een sae blue!

She saw the dear, the little cot,
Where fifteen years flew sweetly bye!
An' mourn'd her shame, an' hapless lot,
That forc'd her frae that home to hye.
Tho' sweet an' mild the e'enin' smil'd,
Her heart was rent wi' anguish keen;
The mavis ceas'd his music wild,
An' wonder'd what her sobs could mean.

It wasna kind, to rob my mind
Of a' its peace for ever-mair;
To blot my name wi' burnin' shame,
An' mak' my parents' heart sae sair.
My home how dare I enter now,
Ilk honour'd face in tears to see;
Where oft I kneel'd to hear the vow,
Was offered frae the heart for me!

An' can I loe the treacherous man,
Wha wrought this dear an' deadly ill,
Wha blurr'd wi' clouds my early dawn,
Ah! wae's my heart! I loe him still!
My heart abus'd, my love misus'd;
My wretched fate wi' tears I see:
But maist, I fear my parents dear
Gae' mournin' to the grave for me."

*Ettrick.* A SHEPHERD.

## BAULDY FRAZER'S DESCRIPTION OF THE BATTLE OF CULLODDEN.

Tune,—*Whigs o' Fife.*

MY name is Bauldy Frazer, man,
I'm puir an' auld, an' pale, an' wan,
I brak my shin, an' tint a han'
Upon Culloden lee, man.
Our highlan' clans war bauld an' stout,
An' thought to turn their faes about,
But gat that day a desp'rat rout,
An' owre the hills did flee, man.

Sic hurly burly ne'er was seen,
Wi' cuffs an' buffs an' blindit een;
While highlan' swords o' metal keen
War gleamin' grand to see, man.
The cannons routit in our face,
An' brak our banes, an' raive our claes;
'Twas then we saw our tickl'sh case
Atween the diel an' sea, man.

Sure Charlie an' the brave Lochyell
Had been that time beside theirsell,
To plant us in the open fell
In the artillry's e'e, man:
For, had we met wi' Cumberland,
By Athol braes or yonder strand,
The maist of a' the savage band
Had dy'd the German sea, man.

But down we drappit dadd for dadd:
I thought it sude hae put me mad,
To see sae mony a highlan' lad
Lye bludrin' on the brae, man.
I thought we ainee had won the fray,
We smasht ae wing till it gae way;
But the other side had lost the day,
An skelpit fast away, man;

When Charley wi' Macpherson met,
Like Hay, he thought him back to get;
We'll turn, quo' he, an' try them yet,
We'll conquer or we'll dee, man.
But Donald jumpit owr the burn,
An' sware an aith he wadna turn;
Or shure she wad hae cause to mourn;
Then fast away did flee, man.

O! had you seen that hunt o' death!
We ran until we tint our breath,
Ay looking back for fear o' skaith,
Wi' hopeless shinin' e'e, man.
But Britain ever may deplore
That day upon Grummassie moor,
Whar thousands faen, war drench'd in gore,
Or hang'd outowr a tree, man.

O Cumberland! what mean'd ye then,
To ravage ilka highlan glen?
Our crime was truth an' love to ane;
We had nae spite at thee, man.
An you, or yours, may yet be glad
To trust the onest highlan' lad;
The bonnet blue an' belted plaid
Will stand the last o' three, man.

Then wha wad Bauldy Frazer wrang?
I made mysel this canty sang;
I'll sing it out baith loud an' lang,
While I hae pith to dree, man.
I'm onest, but I'm unco poor,
I'm forc'd to beg frae door to door;
An' 'cause I join'd the rebel core,
Here, nane will pity me man.

*Ettrick.* A SHEPHERD.

## AYONT THE MOU AMANG THE STRAE.

TUNE.—"*Andrew wi' his cutty gun.*"

*BLYTHELY hae I screw'd my pipes,*
*An' blythely play'd the lie-lang day,*
*An blyther been wi' bonnie Bess*
*Ayont the mou amang the strae.*

Whan first I saw the bonnie face
O' bessie bloomin' in her teens,
She wyl'd awa this heart o' mine,
An' ca'd it fou o' corkin' preens.

"At ein whan a' the lave gae ly
"An' Graunie stecks her waukrife e'e,
"Steal out when I the winnock tap,
"Ahint the ha' I'll meet wi' thee."

She leugh, an' bad me let her hame,
Her Mither sair wad flyte an' scauld,
But e'er I quit my bonnie Bess,
Anither tale I trou she tauld.

On Tysday night, fou weel I wat,
Wi' kinny words I row'd my tongue,
Raught down my plaid an' steively stak
Intill my neive a hazel rung.

Now whan I con'd my artless tale
Gaun linken oure the lillie lea,
Fou well I trou'd that ilka bush
Some jeering quasten speir'd at me.

The bittern cry'd frae yont the lock,
"O Loolie, hoolie—whare ye gaun?"
The quail reply'd frae 'mang the corn,
"Turn out your taes, my bonnie man."

An' soon I faund, wi' shiv'ring shanks,
My heart play dunt throu' bashfou fear,
Whan glowrin' oure the kail-yard dyke
To see gin a' the coast was clear;

An' there like ony rightly thief,
Wi' eerie swither lour'd awhile,
Till rallying ilka traitor nerve,
I lightly lowpit owre the stile:

Syne ga'e the glass twa cannie pats,
An Bessie bade na lang frae me,
The rousty lock was ullied weel
An' ilka hinge o' cheepin' free*.

O say, ye haly Minstrel band,
Wha saw the saft, the silken' hour,
Tho' joys celestial on ye wait,
Say was your bliss mair chastely pure,

Put fare ye-weel, my bonnie lass,
At ein ye mauna look for me,
An' fare ye-weel, auld Mither Yirth,
Thy hills I never mair will see.

*Blythely hae I screw'd my pipes,*
*An' blythely play'd the lie-lang day,*
*An' happy been wi' bonny Bess*
*Ayont the mou amang the strae.*

*London* 1805. *T. M. C.*

## CLACKMANNAN TOWER.

HAIL, ancient Tow'r! once the gay seat of Kings
And warlike Heroes of most high renown;
But now, alas! like all created things,
Thy stones to dust are daily mould'ring down.

Tho' mute thy bell, and drear thy empty halls,
Long I've rever'd thee and will love thee still;
Tho' nought but ivy deck thy garden walls,
Oft let me wander on thy beauteous hill.

For here I've saunter'd at the "peep of dawn;"
With fond companions of my earlier hours;
Oft too at eve' we've stray'd across the lawn,
Climb'd thine ascent to pluck wild blooming flow'rs.

Now childhood past—I mount the rising ground,
With tardier step to view the hilly north;
Admire the variegated scene around,
And trace meand'ring Devon to the Forth.

Whilst Sol thro' eastern clouds yet darts his light,
And tinges Ochil's heights with yellow streaks;
What beauteous objects rise upon the sight,
Sublime appear Demyet's † gilded peaks.

How pleasant 'tis to view the plain below,
Where plenty waves her treasures in the breeze;
How cheerful 'tis to hear the cattle low,
And lively songsters warble 'mongst the trees:

The sprightly lark its tuneful pipe doth raise
And sings in heav'nly notes its morning lay;
In sweetest melody his Maker's praise
The blackbird chaunteth from the dewy spray.

Sweet winding Forth! with what increas'd delight
I view thy verdant banks, where first mine eyes
Beheld the sun, that glorious source of light,
Where first I learn'd great Nature's gifts to prize.

*Banks of the Forth*, 1804. *B.*

PROCEED-

* With this necessary precaution *I trust* few of my young countrywomen are unacquainted.

† One of the highest of the Ochils.

*HOUSE of COMMONS.*

*Monday, April* 8. 1805.

NAVAL INQUIRY.

MR *Whitbread* rose, and moved that the "Tenth Report of the Commissioners for inquiring into the abuses in the Civil Offices of the Navy *," be read, which was done shortly by the clerk, having been previously laid upon the table for the use of the Members.—The following is an abstract of this interesting Report:

Lord Melville succeeded Mr Barre as Treasurer of the Navy on the 19th August 1782, and held it till 10th April 1783. He was re-appointed on the 5th January 1784, and continued till 1st June 1800.

Soon after the latter appointment, a warrant under his Majesty's sign-manual was given, for an additional allowance of 2324l. 6s. 6d. to make his net official income 4000l. a year, "in full satisfaction of all wages and fees, and other profits and emoluments."

Mr Andrew Douglas, who acted as first Paymaster under Lord Melville, being dead, we had recourse to his Lordship for information, whether the conditions of the warrant had been complied with? To the question put to Lord Melville, whether, during the period of his first Treasurership, he had derived any profit or advantage from the use of money issued for carrying on the current service of the navy?—he objected to answer, under the fifth clause of the act by which we are constituted; which provides, "That no person shall be compellable to answer any question which may criminate himself, or tend to criminate such person, or to expose such person to any pains or penalties;" and upon the ground of not disclosing delicate and confidential transactions of Government.

We however deemed it necessary to ascertain, whether his Lordship was aware of the conditions of the warrant, and what construction he put on them. By his answer we learned, that he certainly did consider the additional salary to be in lieu of all wages, profits, and emoluments, previously enjoyed by former Treasurers, excepting only coals, candles, and some such small contingencies.

The money issued to a Treasurer of the Navy remains at his account, when Ex-treasurer, for the purpose of making the payments for which it was issued. The balance of his first Treasurership was on the 31st December 1795, 5563l.—and was paid over to his Lordship on his quitting the office in June 1800. The balance of his second Treasurership was on the 31st December 1803, 5647l. a part of which, 229l. was paid to personated seamen, 460l. is in the hands of

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[* The Commission for Naval Inquiry was instituted by act of Parliament in 1802, at the recommendation of Earl St Vincent, when first Lord of the Admiralty. The Commissioners are five in number, viz. Vice Admiral Sir Charles Morris Pole, Ewan Law, John Ford, Henry Nicholls, and William Mackworth Praed, Esqrs. John Williams, Esq. Secretary to the Commission. In the course of 1803 and 1804, nine reports were drawn up, and laid before Parliament. These related to the management in the offices at the different dockyards, the victualling office, the sick and hurt office, the Transport Board, and the Chest at Chatham.—No proceedings have been held in Parliament on any of these reports, excepting some new regulations respecting the Chest at Chatham, which have been recommended by the Commissioners, and have been ordered to be carried into effect. The tenth Report, which has been just laid before Parliament, respects the conduct of Lord Viscount Melville, while Treasurer of the Navy, and of Alex. Trotter Esq. his paymaster in that office. As this Report has been the foundation of proceedings and resolutions in the House of Commons, highly interesting to the public, we have deemed it necessary to postpone till a future number a detail of the other business which has occupied the deliberations of Parliament, in order to give an early and comprehensive view of this important case.]

of the sub-accomptant, and the remainder 4961l. is in the hands of Mr Alexander Trotter, who was appointed Paymaster by Lord Melville in January 1786, and continued till June 1800. This disposition of the Treasurer's balance appears to us more exceptionable than if it were in the hands of the Treasurer, because the Paymaster has the general controul of every branch of the Navy Pay-Office, and it is part of his duty to bring forward the Treasurer's accounts, which the use of the money may incline him to delay.

The act of the 25th of his present Majesty, for better regulating the office of Treasurer of his Majesty's Navy, directed that the several provisions should take place on the 1st of July 1785, but they were not carried into effect till the first of January 1786; we understand the delay was occasioned by the necessity of making some previous official arrangements. In that month, Alexander Trotter, Esq. who had lately been a Clerk in the Navy Pay-Office, was appointed Paymaster by Lord Melville, and he states that he acted as Deputy to the Treasurer in all the duties attached to the situation, except the appointment of Officers and Clerks.

As the directions of the act are positive, that the issues of money for navy services shall be made to the Bank, and that the money shall not be drawn from thence but for navy services, it appeared to us, that if the directions of the act had been observed, the circumstance which we have before noticed, that the sums standing in the name of the Treasurer at the Bank were less than his unappropriated balances, could not have existed. We therefore deemed it our duty to inquire minutely into the cause of such deficiencies, and with this view we first examined Mr Trotter, and afterwards Lord Melville. Mr Trotter, when first called upon to account for these deficiencies, said he could not precisely explain the cause of them; but afterwards acknowledged, that he had been in the practice of drawing money from the Bank in large sums, and lodging it in the hands of private bankers, previously to its being issued to the sub-accountants for the public service. This practice, he states, was introduced about the year 1786, with the knowledge and approbation of the Treasurer. Lord Melville admits, that he did permit Mr Trotter to lodge the public money in his private banker's hands, but not, as it would seem, to the extent understood by Mr Trotter. Mr Trotter, on being questioned whether he had derived any profit or advantage from the money withdrawn by him from the Bank, refused to answer, under the provisions of the fifth clause of the act by which we are constituted; and he availed himself of this clause in every question which bore any relation to the use or employment of the public money, either by himself or Lord Melville; urging in the latter case, that as he had drawn all the money from the Bank in the first instance, he conceived himself implicated in its subsequent appropriation. Mr Trotter gave us to understand, that money applicable to navy services, which had been advanced by him to Lord Melville, was employed by his Lordship in the public service of the state; and that he was led to this conclusion in consequence of a considerable sum, so advanced, having been returned to him by Mr Long, one of the Secretaries to the Treasury.

Upon this statement we issued our precept to Lord Melville, for an account of monies received by him, or any person on his account, or by his order, from the Paymaster of the Navy, between the 1st of July 1785 and the 31st of December 1800, stating when such monies were received; and also the times when, and the persons by whom, the same were returned to the Bank or the Paymaster.

In answer to that precept, we received from his Lordship the following letter:

"*Wimbledon, 30th June* 1804.

"Gentlemen—I have received your requisition, of date the 20th inst. It is impossible for me to furnish you with the account you ask. It is more than four years since I left the office of Treasurer of the Navy, and at the period of doing so, having accounted for every sum impressed into my hands, I transferred the whole existing balance to the account of my successor. From that time, I never considered any paper or voucher that remained in my hands as of the smallest use to myself or any other person, and consequently, being often in the practice, since I retired to Scotland, of employing occasionally some time in assorting

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my papers, and destroying those that were useless, I am satisfied there does not exist any one material by which I could make up such an account as you specify. But, independently of that circumstance, I think it right to remind you, that during a great part of the time I was Treasurer of the Navy, I held other very confidential situations in Government, and was intimately connected with others. So situated, I did not decline giving occasional accommodation from the funds in the Treasurer's hands to other services, not connected with my official situation as Treasurer of the Navy. If I had materials to make up such an account as you require, I could not do it without disclosing delicate and confidential transactions of Government, which my duty to the public must have restrained me from revealing."

"MELVILLE."

However the apprehension of disclosing delicate and confidential transactions of Government might operate with Lord Melville in withholding information respecting advances to other departments, we do not perceive how that apprehension can at all account for his refusing to state, whether he derived any profit or advantage from the use of money issued for the services of the Navy.

Although we could not ascertain what monies were paid over to Lord Melville, yet, Mr Trotter admits, that in following his Lordship's instructions, or in acting in his affairs as his private agent, he had occasionally laid out for his use from 10 to 20,000l, without considering whether he was previously in advance to his Lordship, or whether such advances were made from his public or private balances.

Mr Trotter not only drew money from the Bank large sums, which he deposited with his private bankers, Messrs. Thomas Coutts and Co. but he also prevailed with the Sub-accountants to deposit the greater part of their balances with that house. One of them, indeed, the Cashier of the Victualling, acquiesced with reluctance, having always before that time kept his balance at the Bank, and wishing still to keep it there; he stated to us, that it was by direction of Mr Trotter he opened an account with Messrs Thomas Coutts and Co. where he took credit for the sums advanced to him by Mr Trotter's drafts on that house; but that he drew out those sums as the public service required, and kept the greater part of his balance at the Bank, where he deposited such sums as were advanced to him by drafts on the Bank.

Mr Trotter states, that between the years 1791 and 1799, the greater part of the monies drawn by him from the Bank passed through the hands of Messrs Thomas Coutts and Co.; that the monies so drawn were sometimes placed to his credit, in his accounts with them, and at others, were carried immediately to the credit of the respective Sub-accountants: and that the consent of the Treasurer to this measure was signified to him in a conversation, in which he represented the facility that would be afforded to the public business, and the additional security to the Treasurer, by the drafts being left with the Bankers, instead of their being sent to the Bank, and the money brought from thence, at his risk, by the messengers of the office.

Lord Melville states, that he certainly did permit Mr Trotter to lodge any money drawn from the Bank for public purposes in his private banker's hands during the period that it was not demanded for the purposes for which it was drawn: but it is to be inferred from his evidence, that he intended Mr Trotter to draw upon the Bank for the amount only of the assignments made on him by the different Boards (an account of which is furnished to him daily,) and that the balance of such sum, till demanded, should alone be lodged by Mr Trotter, in the hands of his private bankers. The reason given by his Lordship for this permission is the opinion, that it would add more facility to the conduct of the business of the office, in the multitude of small payments to be made, than if the money were to be deposited, according to the constitution of the office, in an iron chest; and that the various parties receiving small payments would be less liable to be imposed upon, than if they were each to receive drafts for such small sums upon the Bank, at such a distance from the Office, after its removal to Somerset Place.

Although the large demands upon the Treasurer are paid by draft, a necessity for making the small payments in money

ney has always existed, and the money necessary for this purpose is of course drawn from the Bank. The sums so drawn, if convenience had only been studied, should have been placed in the charge of the different Sub-accountants, by whom such demands are paid, and not kept in the hands of the Paymaster, who is not a disburser of public money, except that issued for the payment of Exchequer fees.

With respect to the risk of bringing the money from the Bank, and of the loss or embezzlement of the drafts by the messengers of the Pay Office, we do not find that the apprehensions entertained on this subject arose from the experience of former losses, for none are known to have happened.

Lord Harrowby, the immediate successor of Lord Melville, disapproved of the practice, as being inconsistent with the spirit of the act; and the Right Hon. Charles Bathurst, who succeeded Lord Harrowby, put a final stop to the practice of drawing the money out of the Bank, and lodging it in the hands of a private banker, from a conviction that it was inconsistent with the spirit of the act, and that the conveniences were not of weight sufficient to justify the continuance of such an irregularity.

Mr Trotter, a few days before he quitted office, proposed to the Right Hon. George Tierney, the then Treasurer, that instead of drafts being given to the Sub-accountants on the Bank, payable to them or bearer, the Paymaster should, from time to time, direct such sums as might be necessary to be transferred from the Treasurer's account at the Bank to the accounts of the Sub-accountants. This proposal was adopted by Mr Tierney; and we learn from Mr Latham, who acted as his Paymaster, that no inconvenience was experienced from this mode of transfer.

[The Commissioners then proceed to state the steps they took, and the difficulties they met with in procuring information, and comment on the examination of Lord Melville and Mr Trotter, both of whom object to answering several questions on the subject, relying on the 5th clause of the act, and also upon the circumstances alluded to in the letter before recited.]

Having no other means of obtaining information as to the manner in which the public money had been applied to private use, and the extent to which it had been carried, but by resorting to Mess. Thomas Coutts and Co. we examined Edmund Antrobus, Esq. the principal acting partner in that house. From him we learned that Mr Trotter, during the time he was Paymaster, had five accounts with this house.

By the evidence of Mr Antrobus it appears, that public money received by Mess. Thomas Coutts and Co. from the Bank, on Mr Trotter's drafts, had been invested in Exchequer and Navy bills, lent upon the security of stock, and employed by Mr Trotter in discounting private bills; and that considerable purchases of Bank and East India stock were made by Mess. Thomas Coutts and Co. on account of Mr Trotter. We thereupon issued our precept to Mess. Thomas Coutts and Co. for the accounts of Mr Alexander Trotter, containing any entries of sums received by his drafts on the Bank, giving them an option either to produce their books, or to furnish us with copies of the accounts.—They preferred the former mode, by which the money received by Mess. Thomas Coutts and Co. by the drafts of Mr Trotter on the Bank, appears to have been money issued for Navy services, because Mr Trotter had no private account there, and drew upon the Bank solely as the agent or attorney of the Treasurer or the Navy.

We conclude that a difference, 6,783,317l. 2s. 11d. was money issued for navy services, drawn from the bank by Mr Trotter, and deposited with Mess. Thomas Coutts and Co. after having passed through his own hands, or the hands of some agent employed by him to receive it by his drafts on the Bank.

As the name of Mr Mark Sprot appeared frequently in the accounts, as paying into the House of Mess. Thomas Coutts and Co. on account of Mr Trotter, and receiving from thence very large sums, we deemed it necessary to examine him as to the nature of his transactions with the Paymaster of the Navy; but after deposing, that, to the best of his recollection, he had not received any money from the Bank by Mr Trotter's drafts, he refused to answer every other question put to him; alledging that he had the advice of Counsel,

Counsel, who were of opinion that he was not bound to answer such questions.

Mr Trotter, in a statement of his proceedings given in to us, does not deny his having made use of the public money withdrawn by him from the Bank; and, in his subsequent examination, he intimates, that in so doing he had acted under permission, although he says he is not at liberty to state that he has even been explicitly authorised to do so. Lord Melville, upon being asked whether he gave permission to the Paymaster to withdraw the money from the Bank and lodge it in the hands of a private banker, with a view to his deriving any advantage or emolument therefrom, answers, "If it is meant to ask me, whether I ever gave any direct authority to the Paymaster to use the money in the manner abovementioned, I should certainly answer No: But I have no hesitation in saying, that I believed and understood he did, and never prohibited him from doing so; and I believe it was so understood by others at different times, when the establishment of the Navy Pay-office was under consideration, when certainly no competent provision was made for the person exercising that trust of great extent and responsibility."

Whether the salary of the Paymaster was not increased when the general augmentation of the salaries of the Cashiers took place in 1786; because he was not in the direct charge or use of the public money other than the money for Exchequer fees, or because he was not, like the Cashiers, in the receipt of fees or gratuities of which they were then deprived, is what we cannot pretend to affirm; but we cannot suppose that the use of the public money was then considered as a perquisite of the Paymaster, which would imply, that the recommendations of the Commissioners of Accounts, the resolution of the House of Commons, and finally, the act of Parliament, were totally disregarded, and that an emolument so fraught with evil to the public, which had been lately commuted with the Treasurer for an additional salary of more than 2000l. a year, was, by those entitled to consider of the establishment of the Navy Pay-office, thought proper to devolve on his deputy, the Paymaster.

Mr Trotter in his paper also states, that he has no doubt, tho' he cannot prove it, that advantages were enjoyed by his predecessors from the use of the public money; and that, "the exceeding smallnes of the salary of Paymaster affords a presumption, that such advantages have been considered as forming a part of the remuneration of so anxious and confidential a charge."

From all the information we have been able to obtain, it does not appear that Mr Trotter's predecessors did enjoy any such advantage.

Upon the whole, it appears to us to be a clearly established fact, that during this Treasurership, the money issued for navy services was used to a great amount for the purposes of private emolument; and this circumstance leads us to observe, that if the Treasurer of the Navy, after an increase of his salary upon the terms contained in the warrant under his Majesty's sign-manual, derives profit from the use of money issued for navy services, he becomes, upon principles of equity, a debtor to the public, and is accountable for all such profit. Our duty requires us to add, that the withdrawing of the public money from the Bank of England, in the manner and for purposes before related, was, in our judgment, a disobedience to the law as established by the 25th of the present reign.

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CHARGE AGAINST LORD MELVILLE.

*Mr Whitbread* then rose, and spoke as follows:—

In speaking of all commissions of inquiry of this nature, he was convinced that none could be found composed of more honourable men than the present, or more calculated to advance the interest and security of the public. It originated with a Board of Admiralty, at whose head was Earl St Vincent, who had so nobly and successfully fought the battles of his country. The Commissioners of Naval Inquiry had made various reports of their proceedings, but nothing had been instituted upon them but regulations respecting the Chest at Chatham, and regarding civil proceedings in the Navy. The Commissioners had met with difficulties in the discharge of their duty; they were attacked by insinuations, and taunted in and out of doors; but the gratitude of the public was due to them

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for the irresistible perseverance they exhibited in bringing to light things that baffled the ingenuity and skill of Committees of the House. It now remained for him to bring to justice delinquents which that Board had laboured to discover and detect. On this subject he did not mean to descant in general, but only as it regarded the high person he had in view. The House, he apprehended, would have little difficulty in agreeing with him that this noble person had flagrantly violated the law, that he had connived at certain practices, and participated in the emolument. If he was arraigned on these charges, and censured for them, he trusted the censure would not stop there, but be followed up by an adequate punishment. In doing this, he was confident that the House would gratify the minds of the people, and confer one of the most gratifying favours on the public at large, as it would shew that in the present exhausted state of the finances, the House would not suffer a door to be opened for peculation, or for any person, however high his rank, to violate the law with impunity.

In bringing forward the present charge against Lord Melville, he said he should conduct himself with temper and moderation, yet with firmness. He accused no mean individual; during the greatest part of his life, at least since his first appearance in the political hemisphere, about 30 years ago, Lord Melville had enjoyed very high offices. No man had ever had a more extensive patronage, or been surrounded by more friends and connections, both in and out of the House. At the close of the American war, when the country was dreadfully distressed by the profuse expenditure of the public money, petitions poured in from every quarter, requesting a reformation in that particular. In consequence of these petitions, which were presented in the dawn of Mr Pitt's political life, resolutions were moved by Lord John Cavendish, that certain regulations ought to be adopted for keeping down the balances in the hands of the Treasurer of the Navy; and that he, and certain principal Clerks, should be paid certain salaries: 2dly, that the Paymaster of the Forces and of the Navy should be prohibited from applying any sum or sums impressed into their hands, to any private purpose, or to any other branch of the public service whatever.—These resolutions were founded on reports made from Commissioners appointed to investigate the public accounts, and they were so well known, that it was unnecessary for him to point out the fact. After this it was resolved to effect a reform in the office of the Treasurer of the Navy. The salary he then enjoyed was 2000l. a year, but the public balances were in hand sometimes to a large, and occasionally to a small amount. Mr Barre in consequence had that sum augmented to 4000l. per ann. in lieu of all fees or perquisites whatever. What was the conduct of this Gentleman? Before any act of Parliament passed, he paid all the money in his hands into the Bank of England, and from that moment neither he nor his dependants derived the smallest benefit from its use. Lord Melville succeeded Mr Barre, and where his Lordship kept the money, he could not say, in his first treasurership, whether it was in the Bank or in the iron chest. The Hon. Charles Townshend, (now Lord Bayning) succeeded Lord Melville, and neither he nor any person, it appeared, under him, derived the smallest benefit from the use of the public money. Lord Melville again got the office on the 5th of Jan. 1784, and continued to hold it till June 1800, a period of sixteen years. On his Lordship's second introduction to the office, he found that the increase of the salary to 4000l. had not been completed by a grant to Mr Barre, and he directly obtained a minute of Council confirming that, and adding two or three trifling articles, such as coals, candles, &c. in lieu of fees, emoluments, and perquisites.

In the year 1785, Lord Melville led the van of reform, and carried a bill through the House for regulating the office of Treasurer of the Navy. That act was worded with such care, so scrupulous in every point, that its letter and meaning could not possibly be tortured or twisted by the most ingenious lawyer in the house. He trusted, in alluding to this act, that the House would adhere to its strict letter, and take care that it was not perverted. This act, it was worthy of remark, was passed in the month of July 1785, and it ordered the Treasurer to deposit all sums he had,

had, or which might be granted him, for navy services, in the Bank of England: but from the examination of the noble Lord, it turned out that he had not obeyed the injunctions of this statute until the 1st of January 1786, assigning as his motive, that certain previous regulations were necessary, which prevented him from doing it sooner. Could the House believe this? Could they for a moment admit so weak, so silly a pretence? Why was the execution of this act postponed? He could not prove it, but he had strong grounds for supposing its execution had been delayed in order to Lord Melville's private emolument. He charged the Noble Lord with having, on his own authority, and without the authority of Parliament, appropriated to his own purposes the public money, in breach of the law, and at an imminent hazard to the public. He, in the second place, charged that noble Lord with conniving in peculation with an individual, for which that individual would afterwards be responsible, but for which Lord Melville was deeply responsible to the House.

Charges of this nature were rarely adduced against men high in office, but it ought not to be forgot, that a similar charge against a man in a similar high situation, had been brought forward by the Noble Lord himself against Sir Thomas Rumbold. It was highly material to look to the evidence. The Commissioners had found, that the Noble Lord had acted contrary to law, and that there were deficiencies against him to the amount of 697,500l. He then went over the history of the office of Treasurer of the Navy, and shewed its new establishment by the acts of Council and Parliament. The first violation of the act was perceived by the deficiencies, and Mr Trotter was called on to explain them, but he refused to do so. This report had been called an *ex parte* statement; was it so, said Mr Whitbread? Had these persons under examination by the Commissioners no opportunity of stating the truth; of amending even the evidence they had given? (loud cries of hear, hear, from the Opposition.) On the contrary, these gentlemen sheltered themselves under the 5th clause of the act, which in his opinion strongly evinced a sentiment of guilt. Mr Trotter said he could not tell how the deficiencies arose; but he stated, that the public money for a long succession of years had been taken to his own private account. It was afterwards discovered that the sums deposited in the Bank of England had been taken from thence, and deposited in the hands of private bankers, and applied to other branches of the public service, especially to one branch in which Mr Long, an Hon. Member, was concerned. He was surprized that Mr Long had not been called before the Commissioners in order to give evidence to that fact. Lord Melville stated, on being called on regarding his transactions with Mr Trotter, that he had burned all his papers while in Scotland. This was most extraordinary. It was impossible that a man so much familiarised, and so much in the habit of office, could do so. Supposing that Mr Long had not been able to repay the sum he borrowed from Lord Melville, for a certain department of the public service, what situation would Lord Melville have stood in then? Why that of applying money clandestinely to purposes to which he was not authorised by Parliament to apply it. In doing this his Lordship, although he might accommodate the public service, was nevertheless guilty of a violation of the Act of Parliament. The Hon. Gentleman then traced the conduct of Lord Melville and Mr Trotter through the several heads he had laid down, of connivance and participation, and blamed, in very forcible terms, the appropriation of the public money to the purchase of Stock, India Stock, Navy bills, &c. which he maintained, was clearly made out by the Report. He next adverted to the examination of the several Treasurers of the Navy, antecedent and posterior to Lord Melville, who, on being asked, whether they had derived any profit or advantage from the use of the money entrusted to their hands, had uniformly replied, No; but when the question was put to his Lordship, he said he would not tell. What was this, said the Hon. Member, but the strongest presumption of guilt: for had the fact been otherwise, the Noble Lord would have boldly spoken out, as his fellows in office did, and answered, No.

After dwelling at great length on these points, he concluded by moving a string of resolutions, which, after

ter reciting the various regulations adopted for preventing abuses in the office of Treasurer of the Navy, state, "that large sums of money were, under pretence of Naval Services, and by a scandalous evasion of the Act, at various times, drawn from the Bank, and invested in Exchequer and Navy Bills, lent upon the security of Stock, employed in discounting private bills, in purchasing Bank and East India Stock, and used in various ways for the purposes of private emolument:—That Alex. Trotter, Esq. Paymaster of the Navy, was the person by whom, or in whose name, the public money was thus employed; and that in so doing he acted with the knowledge and consent of Lord Viscount Melville, to whom he was at the same time private agent, and for whose use or benefit he occasionally laid out from 10 to 20,000l. without considering whether he was previously in advance to his Lordship, and whether such advances were made from his public or private balances:—And, that Lord Melville having been privy to, and connived at the withdrawing from the Bank of England, for purposes of private interest or emolument, sums issued to him as Treasurer of the Navy, and placed to his account in the Bank, according to the provisions of 25th Geo. III. c. 31, has been guilty of a gross violation of the law, and a high breach of duty."

There were other resolutions relative to the appropriation of the navy money to other services, which the Hon. Mover did not mean to press at present.

*Mr Pitt*, after a number of preliminary observations respecting the means that had been resorted to, to inflame the passions of the House and the public on this subject, proceeded to observe, that the Hon. Gentleman had given a most erroneous and mistaken view of the case. He had said that the persons blamed had an opportunity of being tried; questions had been put to them, and they had been asked, whether they would answer and criminate themselves. Was this any thing like a trial? Every man who is tried knows the evidence to be adduced against him, and has an opportunity of cross-examining the witnesses on oath, and then of being heard in his defence; but here the case was materially different, and the examination before the Commissioners of Enquiry, had not the most distant resemblance to a trial. Although it could not be maintained that no inconvenience from these transactions had resulted to the public, yet it became the House to set its own mark on these transactions, and in full confidence of the report, he had no hesitation in saying, that the circumstances before gentlemen were not such as to authorise them to come to such a decision as the Hon. Gentleman pointed at. It would be infinitely preferable to refer the consideration of the Report to a Select Committee of the House, where every information divested of fear or resentment would come forward, and on the report of that Committee the House would be enabled to judge of the case before them with indubitable certainty and precision.

Mr Pitt then proceeded to reply generally to the topics descanted on by Mr Whitbread. As to the charge of a participation in advantages derived from the use of the public money, as the Hon. Gentleman had nothing to urge but his suspicions, it ought not to have been brought forward to give a colour to other matters of charge, but should have made a separate ground of crimination. Respecting the application of certain sums to other branches of the public service, it might be criminal, it might be the reverse; the House, without further enquiry, had not the means of judging. He had himself been a party to one transaction of that nature, and he could explain it to the entire satisfaction of the House; and he believed that Lord Melville could give an account equally satisfactory of every transaction of the kind.

As to the alledged connivance at the Paymaster of the Navy keeping the public money in his hands, and applying it to purposes of private profit, it certainly was not justifiable, but much, much must depend on the circumstances, the extent, and the danger that had been incurred. It was evident from the Commissioners Report, that the issues had not been greater than the service required;—that the money had not been applied so as not to be ready to satisfy any demand or sudden emergency; and that no effect had been produced in the increase of expence. The circumstance that no loss had been sustained, was a strong ground of pre-

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sumption that no great hazard had been incurred. Mr Pitt then pointed out various errors in the report of the Commissioners. The sum of a million lodged in the House of Coutts, which had been so much dwelt upon, had been carried thither directly from the Bank, and issued next day, to take up Navy Bills then due. The sums that had been vested in Messrs Coutts had been neither lodged there for the benefit of the Treasurer of the Navy nor of the Navy Paymaster, but in the course of office; and this was another error of the Report; for the same practice prevails at present of drawing in gross, from the difficulty of paying all the small sums by drawing in detail. The act of Parliament directed no such drafts for small sums, but for sufficient sums to enable the Paymaster from day to day to issue the necessary sums to the sub-accountants, so that the balances in hand appeared not to contravene the law, but to be in direct conformity with it, and necessary for the management of the business of the office. The question, therefore, was, whether more had been issued than was necessary; whether an expence to the public had been the consequence, or an increase of issue? —The House was aware that no money was issued to the Treasurer of the Navy, but on memorial from the different Boards, and that consequently the Treasurer could have no power of increasing the balances.

The Right Hon. Gentleman proceeded to argue, at considerable length, that it was at least a fit subject for inquiry, whether the Act of Parliament, upon which the Resolutions of Censure were to be founded, had in fact been violated, that the sums in the hands of the Paymaster and Sub-Accountants had not, in any year, exceeded the amount of the assignments outstanding, of which the parties had a right to demand immediate payment; and that the balances had remained in the hands of the Paymaster, little, if any time beyond that allowed to be reasonable by the Commissioners themselves.

As the supposed participation of his Lordship in profits arising from the use of public money formed no part of the charge, but was glanced at as a matter of suspicion only, it was wholly unnecessary for him to advert to it, particularly as that was to be made the ground of further investigation. He had hoped, after the declaration that had been made by the Noble Lord in his communication to the Commissioners laid before the House, which he had stated himself ready to verify with the sanction of a solemn oath, that he should have heard no more of suspicion. The Hon. Gentleman had observed, that the ground upon which the Noble Lord had declined answering had been well understood; but the Noble Lord, by his letter, had declared, that his refusal to answer had arisen solely in consequence of the way in which Mr Trotter had kept his accounts, and because he could not possibly know whether Mr Trotter might not have made some advances to him out of the public money. The Hon. Gentleman had adverted to the sum of 100,000l. paid to Lord Melville's account, during the whole period that he was in office, and until the whole of Lord Melville's account with Mr Trotter should be made up, it was impossible to decide upon that fact. The House should look into these accounts, which were loose and difficult, before it could pronounce whether any advances from the public money had been made to his Lordship. If the investigation should be proceeded with, he was convinced that many sums stated to have been paid in the name of Lord Melville, would appear to have been applied to official purposes; how far that was the case, it was not for him to anticipate then, before the inquiry should be instituted. The House would determine for itself when the investigation should take place. Before they could judge whether any sums of public money had been so advanced, they should see the credit account of Lord Melville, they should also see the different sums paid in by Mr Trotter for Lord Melville, on account of his salary as Treasurer of the Navy, as also an account of his unappropriated salary as Keeper of the Signet in Scotland, and for dividends in the funds.

Would Gentlemen under these circumstances give way to surmises? Would they think it strange that Lord Melville, knowing that he had no contract with Mr Trotter, no participation with him, and knowing also the unfortunate way in which Mr Trotter kept his accounts, had declined answering until he ascertained the state of these accounts?

accounts? And if it should appear even that a few thousands had been, by inadvertence, so advanced, could any Gentleman suppose that that would have been any object to a Noble Lord in a high and distinguished office of trust and honour? He would not think it possible for a liberal and enlightened mind, for even common sense to entertain such an opinion. If so, then he contended, that the materials before the House were insufficient to form a final judgment, and that a further investigation was absolutely necessary, and that such investigation could not be conducted in the House, but in a Select Committee, which could be managed without much delay. With these sentiments, he felt it unnecessary and improper to say more on the subject. He should therefore move, as an amendment, that "the tenth report be referred to a Select Committee, &c.

Mr *Fox* thought the most regular way of proceeding would be to move the previous question, upon the resolution of his Hon. Friend, instead of moving for the Select Committee in the first instance, as it might be an object with the Hon. Mover to have his motion entered on the Journals.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer* had no objection to the proposed resolution appearing upon the Journals, or to moving the previous question in the first instance, if it were understood that he intended to move the Select Committee as a substitute for the present motion.

After a few words from Mr Grey,

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer* moved the previous question.

*Lord Henry Petty* observed, that the resolutions of his Hon. Friend were founded upon plain matters of fact, which arose out of the violation of the law; but the preference which the Rt. Hon. Gentleman had given to appointing a Select Committee, was from an enumeration of figures, which arose from the obscurity thrown upon the business by Lord Melville and his Paymaster. The fact of Lord Melville's having violated the act of Parliament, of his having allowed the Paymaster to lodge certain sums, which should have been deposited in the Bank of England, in the hands of a private banker, of his admission that several sums of money, constituted for the particular purposes of the navy, were appropriated to other services, were too flagrant breaches of the act to be passed over; and when the resolutions were agreed to, he should be the first to acquiesce in the appointment of a Select Committee. It had been said, that no loss had been sustained to the public in this business; it appeared, however, that at least a great public risk had been sustained. The Right Hon. Gentleman had entered into an argument of numerical calculations, in which he could not attempt to follow him, being unacquainted with the forms of office with which the Right Hon. Gentleman was so conversant: he had said that large sums were given from the Exchequer for the service of the navy, which were afterwards appropriated to other services, and much larger sums were drawn than applied; how then could they have been applied? this was not specified, and they might as well have been applied to private purposes as any other.

The Right Hon. Gentleman had admitted that great speculations had taken place, great risks must consequently have followed. A combination had been formed of three persons, the one had the direction of the public funds relating to a particular department. Mr Mark Sprott was the broker and manager, under Mr Alexander Trotter; he was the confidential agent, and accountable to Lord Melville; and he was the person who was accountable to the public.—What danger, he asked, might have arisen from this combination? he had heard of many combinations of different descriptions in the state, but he knew of none more formidable than the one in question; and the systematic deception which Lord Melville had pursued, had evaded every attempt at investigation. His Lordship then adverted to an extract from the evidence of Lord Melville, given before the Committee of Finance when the speaker was at the head of that Board; and it then appeared, that no account of the first Treasurership of Lord Melville had been finally passed. The Noble Lord had stated, that the several regulations which had taken place, had enabled him to carry that most beneficial act into effect. He demanded what this beneficial act was? It was not to constitute the office of a particular department into a public treasury (*A loud cry of Hear! Hear!*)

For fourteen years his Lordship had

systematically violated the act of Parliament, and the House was then called upon to go into a Committee, before the question was decided, whether the Noble Lord was to hold the high and important situation any longer (*Hear! Hear!*) If it had occurred to Lord Melville to ask Mr Mark Sprott whether he had used the ten thousands, and the twenty thousands for their own benefit or emolument? if Mr Alexander Trotter himself had asked the question, Mr Mark Sprott would soon have ceased to be the broker for either. From the evidence in the report, this Gentleman had stated, that from the nature of keeping the accounts, he could not tell whether or not he derived any emolument. If all were suffered to give this sort of account, all the brokers in London would follow the example. If any part of Lord Melville's evidence, or the extraordinary letter which he wrote, after hearing all the arguments of both friends and enemies, if the latter could be called enemies, who were only enemies to illegality; if he could find any specific assertion, positively denying that he had received or derived any emolument of a private nature; his Lordship declared, he would at once vote for a select Committee; but he called on any Gentleman to state a case of the nature of the present: if so, he would pronounce him innocent; but he could not help remarking with Plso, "who is more criminal than he who cannot either speak or write himself guilty?"

Such was the noble Lord in question, who could be the first to make an act and violate it himself. If the motion of the Right Hon. Gentleman took place, it was a vain toil, a fruitless labour, to follow up the question farther: in that case, not only would the Treasurer of the Navy be found to be violating an act for upwards of fourteen years, but also would be found a House of Commons who would suffer those charges to lie on their table, only anxious how they might avoid such an investigation, and after all this trouble, a power should step in between the criminal and the law. His Lordship trusted that this night, although there might be a difference between the House in other respects, yet when the question came before them, whether the law had been violated, or the public finances properly administered or not, there would be that promptitude found amongst them, which was ever the support of the honour and dignity of that House. With these sentiments, his Lordship said he would vote for the resolutions of his Hon. Friend, and would afterwards agree to a Select Committee.

The *Attorney General* said, the fair question was, whether it was most for the dignity of the House to take the business now by piece-meal, or have it properly investigated, when the whole should appear, before they came to a final judgment? It appeared to him rather an extraordinary measure to proceed as they were intending, and inconsistent to proceed in that way: he therefore would agree with his Hon. Friend for a Select Committee, without prejudice to any party.

*Mr Tierney* (late Treasurer of the Navy) said, that with respect to the appropriation of the public money from that service for which it was constituted, he thought it was fraught with much danger; and indeed the perusal of the Tenth Report of the Commissioners, he studied with surprise, amazement, and almost shame. Did Lord Melville or Mr Trotter come to the bar of the House, and ask further time to investigate their accounts, and justify their conduct? The Right Hon. Gentleman had expressed much anxiety to come to a conclusion upon this question before the recess of Parliament.—Where was that anxiety now, when he proposed a Select Committee? The Attorney General, too, pressed the necessity of a Select Committee; but the Commissioners of Naval Inquiry had been occupied for six months, in no other business than that of investigating the matters of the Tenth Report. What utility could it then be of to go into a new Committee? The Right Hon. Gentleman appeared anxious to know the extent of the deficiencies, not for the purposes of criminating, but for the purposes of refunding, as appeared from his enumeration of the several sums paid and received. The money was not kept in the Bank;—no, says the Right Hon. Gentleman, it was lodged at Messrs Coutts: to save trouble, a clerk of the Navy Office takes a cheque for a large amount, receives the value at the Bank of England, passes Somerset House, and carries it down to Messrs Coutts and Co.

Co.—This was the convenience. While he had the honour of holding the office of Treasurer of the Navy, no inconveniance whatever arose from a strict adherence to the act of Parliament, nor could he see how it was possible Mr Trotter could see any thing in the act which could leave the least doubt on his mind of the true spirit and meaning of it. With respect to the participation of the emoluments by Lord Melville with Mr Trotter, there did not remain a doubt upon his mind. Was it possible for Lord Melville to go on as he did, for twelve years, merely for the advantage of Mr Trotter? he could not be blind to the rising prosperity of Mr Trotter; he knew he originally had nothing; and this alone should have been sufficient to rouse his jealousy.

*Mr Canning* (present Treasurer of the Navy) opposed the resolutions; he considered it would be proceeding upon very imperfect evidence, and the House would make an imperfect decision if they did not go into a Select Committee: it would be holding out to the public that they had condemned the whole, when it was only a part. With respect to the Report itself, it contained a vast quantity of complex and complicated accounts, which Lord Melville had known only for the first time, when he wrote the last letter to the Commissioners, and from these complex and complicated accounts, his Lordship's guilt was to be inferred, and the Commissioners' Report was to be taken for granted. He declared, that he felt a firm conviction, that if the question was to come before a Committee, it would be found that the act was not violated. He should now come to the imputed participation. He put it then to the conscience of the Right Hon. Gentleman behind him (Mr Tierney) to declare, whether he is not convinced, that the vote as proposed, if carried, will not be considered by the world as confirming the accusation in its full extent? and whether it will not go forward, not as decisive of this or that particular point, but as comprehending and embracing every circumstance, however vague or general, that has been brought into discussion? He would ask, whether, in fact, after such a vote, Lord Melville would not be considered by the public, as found guilty of foul and corrupt malversation in office?—(A loud cry of *hear! hear! hear!* from the Opposition Bench, and one or two voices assented.) Mr Canning then said, he understood the Hon. Gentleman who opened the business, not as having put the case in that broad and aggravated point of view; and, therefore, he submitted to the House, whether the vote, if carried, would not go farther than the original mover intended? This was his meaning, and he conceived himself correct in it.

*Mr Fox* said, he could not be silent upon such an occasion, lest he should be suspected of declining to mark with the strongest reprobation, guilt of a nature so glaring. He declared that Lord Melville's conduct could be counted nothing else but a corrupt breach of the Act; that it signified nothing whether any of the money was made away with or not; it had been used for the purpose of making money, and it was impossible any man could win a large sum without running a great risque. After an animated speech, he concluded by saying, that if such a despicable character was allowed to attach to our Government, what opinion must the rest of Europe have of us, and urging, in the strongest manner that the resolutions should be entered into.

*Mr Wilberforce* expressed himself in clear and decisive terms in favour of the motion. Though it was not fully evident to the House that Lord Melville had any direct gain from the transactions alluded to, yet he could not say that his Lordship had not received accommodation from them. It was, however, very clearly in evidence, that Mr Trotter had acted on a very large and extensive scale. If the House was once to suffer a Minister to say that he had connived at the breach of a law, by his deputy, a confidential servant, constantly for a number of years, and that the superior was to be allowed to pass uncensured, because no personal corruption had been proved against himself: if that was once to be admitted as a principle by which the conduct of the House of Commons was to be directed, there was no security remaining for the faithful discharge of any public trust.

The House then divided upon the amendment, when there appeared—Ayes 216—Noes 216.

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The numbers being declared equal, the Speaker gave his voice in favour of the original motion.

The Resolutions were then all read and agreed to, and the House adjourned at six o'clock in the morning.

*Wednesday, April* 10.

*Mr Pitt* informed the House that Lord Melville had yesterday tendered to his Majesty his resignation of the office of first Lord of the Admiralty, which his Majesty had been pleased to accept.

*Mr Whitbread* immediately rose. The notice, he said, given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, could not be unexpected, but neither the House nor the public could be satisfied with it. Lord Melville had done, what every man was entitled to do when he pleased, sent in his resignation, but he might be restored to office, and to all his usual plentitude of influence and power to-morrow, unless the House took such measures as might render his return to office impossible. After dwelling at considerable length on the topics urged in his former speech, he gave notice, that on the first open day after the holidays, he should move that the Attorney-General be instructed to proceed against Lord Melville and Mr Trotter; that a restraining bill be brought in to prevent the alienation of their property, and that a select Committee be appointed, to enquire into the various circumstances of those transactions not at present before the House. In the mean time, he should content himself with moving, "that an address be presented to his Majesty, to remove Lord Viscount Melville from all the offices he holds in the State, and from the royal councils and presence for ever."

*Mr Canning* considered the procedure proposed by the Hon. Gentleman as violent and vindictive. Whatever might have been the errors of Lord Melville, he was never a bitter political opponent. He had been most impartial in the selection of naval, military, and other characters, and when a motion was instituted, in the year 1795. for an enquiry into the conduct of Sir Charles Grey, and Lord St Vincent, in the West Indies, he had defended these officers, and obtained a vote of thanks to them for their conduct. Now that noble Lord was to be hunted down by the friends of Lord St Vincent, whom he could not help congratulating on the samples they had exhibited of their Spartan inflexibility. Mr Canning then went over the same grounds as Mr Pitt, in defence of Lord Melville. The resolutions of the House, he said, did not impute to his Lordship any thing like corrupt views, and while he (Mr C.) bowed to the decision of the House, he was not so well convinced as others might be, that the Act of Parliament in question was violated. That act must be liberally interpreted, for a literal compliance with it would, in many cases, be physically impossible. In the various departments of the naval and victualling services, there were from three to four thousand accounts opened for trifling sums, some of them as low as from seven or eight shillings to a pound. The greatest inconvenience would arise from giving separate orders on the Bank for the payment of such small accounts; all that could be expected, was an adherence to the spirit and general intent of the act, which could not be construed so as to preclude the existence of a balance in the hands of the Treasurer, applicable to the payment of such demands. The transfer, indeed, of so large a sum as one million in one day, stated in the report, was no doubt a case of enormous suspicion, but a simple reference to the books of the office would explain the transaction to the satisfaction of every person. The whole sum, on the very day it was drawn out of the Bank, was paid for Navy and Victualling Bills then due, and had been drawn out at the request of the Officers of the Navy and Victualling offices for that purpose. After various other explanations, Mr C. concluded, by expressing his conviction, that, upon further enquiry, it would turn out, that the violation of the Act of Parliament, in this respect, so much insisted upon, was, in a great measure, imaginary. In reply to a question from Mr Whitbread, whether Mr Trotter and Mr Wilson had been dismissed from the Navy Office? he stated, the former had been dismissed; the latter had not, because there was no imputation against him, and because he was convinced that the Public had not an honester servant than Mr Wilson.

*Mr Grey* vindicated the conduct of Sir Charles Grey and Lord St Vincent,

who,

who, he added, had only received from the Ministers who employed them, and from the House, that justice to which they were entitled.

*Mr Banks* recommended that the motion should be withdrawn; the original resolution on the journals being fully sufficient.

*Mr Robert Thornton* justified the Bank of England. He had enquired within this day or two, and found that not any other draughts, but such as specified the head of service, were ever presented for payment at the Bank.

*Mr Wyndham* said, the only reason upon which the House could consent not to pass the present proposition, was, that the principle should be admitted and recognised, that no person under the censure of that House should be appointed to any place of trust and confidence as long as he remained so. The Noble Lord has unfortunately placed himself in that situation, that he cannot, either now or hereafter, fill any employment of trust. It then becomes the duty of the House to take every rational security that he should not, and there was no security so strong or so satisfactory as the motion proposed by his Hon. Friend. It was their duty to the public to take every necessary precaution that should not happen hereafter, which, in their present judgment, they thought should not happen now.

*Mr Wilberforce* repeated his opinions as to the importance of the subject, and the necessity of searching into abuses, the existence of which was pregnant with danger to the constitution and the country. It was by no means his wish to shelter public offenders from that punishment which the House were imperiously called upon by their duty to inflict on them; but he certainly thought that the circumstances of the present case were considerably changed by the resignation of the Noble Lord, and he therefore confessed, that he wished the Hon. Gentleman would withdraw his motion. In the execution of their public duties, public men ought not to be governed by any motives but those of public utility. He did not like the system of adhering to a party, for the sake of that party alone.—What had been said by an Hon. Gentleman that evening, shewed the danger of acting on such a system, although he could not but admit, that Lord Melville had at least acted liberally in employing the two Noble Lords alluded to.

*The Chancellor of the Exchequer* hoped the declaration he was going to make would satisfy the House that it was not necessary to pass the present motion.—With the vote of Monday upon their journals, the danger of Lord Melville's being appointed to any political situation was impossible. If the House, at any future period, should be of opinion that it was improper those resolutions should remain on their journals, and should vote that they be rescinded, then, and not till then, would the Noble Lord be qualified to return to a political situation.

*Mr David Scott* deprecated the proposed measure, as not only unnecessarily harsh, but as savouring of bitterness and rancour. It would be a most unmerited return to the Noble Lord, after full 30 years of most meritorious service to the State.—"As to his being concerned," said Mr Scott, "in any sort of peculation, it is totally out of the question. No man whatever, I conceive, could believe any thing of the sort.—There is no man that has the honour of his acquaintance, who does not know him to be incapable of benefiting by the public money, or by any other thing not perfectly honourable. Such suspicion could scarce arise in the mind of any person, as indeed being directly contrary to the habits of his life. No man has ever valued money less; indeed, from what we all know, if he had chosen to benefit by the public money, he might have had millions. On the contrary, those who have the pleasure of knowing him best, I believe, know, that if he made the two ends meet at the end of the year, he was well pleased. Much has been said about enmity and illiberality. I believe, Sir, that all who know his Lordship as well as I do, know him to be as honourable, liberal, and humane a character, as ever existed."

*Mr Kinnaird* spoke in favour of the address, and accused Lord Melville of having exerted his power with bitterness, especially in Scotland, and particularly in the case of the Hon. Henry Erskine, who, by his influence, had been dismissed from his situation as Dean of the Faculty of Advocates.

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*The Secretary at War* had meant cautiously to abstain from uttering a word on the subject which was under the consideration of the House, had he not felt himself loudly called upon by the statement of the Hon. Gentleman who had just sat down. He wished to ask the Hon. Gentleman at what period he had discovered that Lord Melville was a bitter political enemy? Was it during the days and weeks of social friendship which he had passed with the Noble Lord? And did he now, in the hour of his need, shew his gratitude by introducing extraneous accusatory matter at the close of a debate, when the question did not demand it, and when those who had proposed the motion to which the discussion of to-night owed its origin, had intimated the intention of withdrawing it? He trusted that in the breasts of Englishmen there existed feelings which would revolt at such conduct. With respect to the history of the expulsion of the Dean of Faculty from his situation, he would briefly state the facts. At a time when democratic principles were but too prevalent, a meeting had been called of those who were misnamed 'Friends of the People.' At this meeting the Dean inadvertently, or rather injudiciously, attended, and by his attendance gave a sanction to its proceedings. Without the slightest interference on the part of Lord Melville, who had nothing whatever to do with the business, the Faculty, indignant at such conduct, at their annual general meeting, elected another Gentleman to the office of Dean,—a step in which he repeated that they were entirely uninfluenced by the Noble Lord alluded to.

*Mr Fox* said, he knew from experience the impropriety, and the injustice, of pushing questions at a late hour of the night, and during the heat and confusion of debate, and therefore he acceded to the request of the Right Hon. Gentleman; but he wished to have the impossibility ascertained of Lord Melville being ever admitted to any place of trust or emolument. Lord Melville was not, however, so deserted but that he had still his panegyrists. He could not bear to hear panegyrics upon Lord Melville, without giving his opinion of the character of that person. The House was supplicated to shew some tenderness to him. What, tenderness to a man who never lost an opportunity of enriching himself publicly and privately, and of adding to his emolument by all possible means?

But it was not his disposition to carry his animosity to extremes; he meant to be more mild to Lord Melville than the House would hereafter probably approve; he meant to wind up the business with the motion of his Hon. Friend, and then to have done with it. After the declaration of the Right Hon. Gentleman, he thought there was no danger of Lord Melville's being again in office. During the present reign of 45 years, there were only two instances of Members of the Privy Council being dismissed, the late Duke of Devonshire and himself, and he was not very anxious to become the companion of Lord Melville. He recollected there was also another instance of a dismissal (Mr Grattan,) but it was from the Council of what was then another kingdom, and he had no objection that that Gentleman (certainly one of the most able, eloquent, and enlightened in the empire) should become one of the party; indeed, since the union, he had a right to consider him as belonging to it. He wished, therefore, to have it distinctly understood, that Lord Melville was not to be appointed to any place of trust or profit. (*Hear from Mr Pitt.*)

*Lord Archibald Hamilton* said, he felt himself bound, as a Scots Member, to express his decided disapprobation of the conduct of his two countrymen, and his determination to vote in favour of the motion.

*Mr Whitbread* said, he had been arraigned for bitterness of disposition in the mode of bringing forward the motion before the House, and he had been accused of manifesting passion, after he had declared his determination to proceed in a moderate manner. Upon these subjects he should with great cheerfulness leave the House to decide. He thought his Majesty's Ministers blameable for advising Lord Melville to resign. The Noble Lord had resigned, and Mr Trotter had been dismissed. The distinction was very wide between them, for Lord Melville had incurred the marked censure of the House, but no proceeding had been instituted against Mr Trotter. The former had, however, been allowed to send in his resignation, and the latter had been dismissed. One sentiment

appeared

appeared, however, to pervade the House, and that was, an opinion that Lord Melville should hold no office under the crown. His only wish was, that the dignity and consistency of their proceedings should be maintained, and for that purpose he had brought forward the motion. It was not his desire to punish Lord Melville, but to preserve the character of the House, and to do justice to the public. As he had on a former night alluded to the Bank of England, he was happy to find that no imputation rested upon the conduct of that body.

The Hon. Gentleman then took a view of various grants which had been made to Lord Melville. He had received a grant of 1500l. a year, in addition to his salary as Lord Privy Seal. This was of course a grant of the public money, most improperly made for life; and the only reason that could be given for it was, that when the Right Hon. Gentleman returned to office, he could not make up an administration without Lord Melville, and therefore gave him this as an inducement to join him; but the Noble Lord seemed to prefer the office of Treasurer of the Navy to every other. When he, some years ago, stated in that House, that he could not rest night nor day for his attention to public business, he held these offices of which it was one. When he gave up the Secretaryship, to which L. 4000 a-year was also attached, he still kept the Navy Office, because the L. 4000 from it, to use a vulgar expression, was *more fat* than that received from the other. He also again stated, that he strongly suspected Mr Pitt had a knowledge of Lord Melville's transactions; for that Right Hon. Gentleman had received information of them from a Gentleman high in office in the Bank.

*Mr Whitbread* concluded with stating, that as no communication of the proceedings of the House had been made to his Majesty, he should propose, that the resolutions should be laid before his Majesty. He consequently would withdraw his original motion. The resolutions were then read from the chair; and the question, that they be laid before his Majesty was carried in the affirmative, *nem. con.*

*The Chancellor of the Exchequer* understood the Hon. Member, that he proposed to submit the resolutions to his Majesty without any comment, and in the most simple form.

*Mr Whitbread* said, that although he proposed to avoid any comment, he never intended to leave out any form in presenting the resolutions of the House to his Majesty. He wished the House to proceed in this important business with all requisite solemnity, and therefore he had proposed that the resolutions should be carried up by the whole House.

The question was then put and carried in the affirmative.

*Thursday, April* 11.

*Lord Stopford* having informed the House, that his Majesty would receive their resolutions relative to Lord Melville at four o'clock that day,—the House adjourned for the Easter recess till Thursday the 25th of April.

The Speaker in his state robes and carriage, attended by about 30 Members, then went up to St James's, when his Majesty being informed of the arrival of the House of Commons, proceeded to the Grand Council Chamber, attended by the Earl of Westmoreland, as Lord Privy Seal, the Earl of Dartmouth, Lord Chamberlain; the Earl of Aylesford, Lord Steward of the Household; the Marquis of Hertford, Master of the Horse; the Earl of Harrington, Gold Stick; Earl of Macclesfield, Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard; Lord Arden, Lord in Waiting; Sir P. Hales, Groom in Waiting. The King being seated on the throne, the Speaker briefly stated, that in obedience to the commands of the House of Commons, he was to intreat his Majesty's permission most humbly to present the resolutions of that House, which had passed on Monday last. The Speaker then read the resolutions, which he did with much force and dignity. The Sovereign received and transferred them to the Marquis of Hertford, and was pleased to deliver the following most gracious answer:

"I am always happy to receive any communication from the House of Commons; and I am fully sensible of the importance of the subject-matter of the resolutions which they have now presented to me."

The Speaker and the Members then withdrew.

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# Monthly Register,

## FOR APRIL 1805.

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

### *FRANCE.*

THE KING OF ITALY!

SUCH is the title that Bonaparte has at length boldly assumed, instead of placing his brother Joseph on the throne of Lombardy, (an object generally understood to have been in contemplation.) The ceremony of his investiture took place at Paris on the 18th March. The following is the substance of what passed on the occasion:—

On the 17th March the Emperor being seated on his throne, at the Thuilleries, surrounded by the princes and dignitaries of the empire, M. Melzi, vice-president, and the great officers of state, of the Italian republic, were introduced, and the former addressed the Emperor in a flattering speech, beseeching him to accept the crown offered to him by the resolutions of the deputation, and which were in substance the same as the subjoined decree. The Emperor replied at some length. He recited the various acts he had performed to render the Italian republic free and independent, and concluded by saying,

"The separation of the crowns of France and Italy, which might be advantageous to insure the independence of your posterity, would at the present moment be fatal to your existence and tranquillity. I shall keep this crown; but only so long as your interests shall require; and I shall with pleasure see the moment arrive, when I can place it on the head of a younger person, who, animated by my spirit, may continue my work, and be on all occasions ready to sacrifice his person and interests to the security and the happiness of the people over whom Providence, the constitutions of the kingdom, and my wish, shall have called him to reign."

*April* 1805.

The next day there was a grand procession to the senate, when the following decree was promulgated:—

Napoleon, by the grace of God, and the Constitutions, Emperor of the French and King of Italy, to all those whom these presents may concern, greeting—

*Constitutional Statute, March* 17.

1. The Emperor of the French, Napoleon First, is King of Italy.

2. The crown of Italy is hereditary in his direct and lawful descendants, whether natural or adopted, from male to male, and to the utter exclusion of females and their descendants; without, however, his right of adoption extending to any other person than a citizen of the French Empire, or of the kingdom of Italy.

3. Whenever the French troops shall evacuate the kingdom of Naples, the Russians the Ionian isles, and the English the Island of Malta, the Emperor Napoleon shall then deliver over the hereditary kingdom of Italy to one of his lawful male children, whether natural or adopted.

4. From this epoch the crown of Italy shall never after be united to the crown of France, on the same head, and the successors of Napoleon I. in the kingdom of Italy, shall constantly reside in the territory of the Italian republic.

5. In the course of the present year, the Emperor Napoleon, by the advice of the consulta of state, and of the deputations of the electoral colleges, shall give to the Italian monarchy a constitution, founded on the same basis with that of France, and on the same principles with those laws which he has already given to Italy.

(Signed) NAPOLEON.

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Various speeches and ceremonies, of the usual complexion, followed the reading of this decree.—Another decree was at the same time promulgated, for granting the Principality of Piombino in Italy to Bonaparte's sister Eliza (the Princess Bacciochi) in perpetual sovereignty. The succession to be hereditary in the descendants of the Princess, but under the controul of France, and none of those descendants to marry without the consent of the Emperor. The husband of the Princess to be stiled Prince Piombino, and to rank as a Prince of the French Empire. He is to swear fidelity to the Emperor, and that he will do every thing in his power to serve the garrison of Porto Ferraio in the isle of Elba. With this decree Mons. Maret, Secretary of State, by order of the Emperor, read the following message:—

"SENATORS—The Principality of Piombino, which France has for many years possessed, has been during that time administered without order or any superintending power. Lying in the midst of Tuscany, and separated as it is from our other possessions, we have thought it right to establish in it a particular regime. Piombino is interesting to us, by the facility which it presents for communicating with the isle of Elba and Corsica; we have therefore thought it our duty to bestow this country, subject to the paramount sovereignty of France, on our sister, the Princess Eliza, conferring, at the same time, on her spouse the title of Prince of the Empire. This grant is not the effect of private tenderness, but an act conformable to sound policy, to the splendour of our crown, and to the interest of our people. NAPOLEON."

Talleyrand made a long speech on the Emperor's motives for these measures. He insinuated that the French troops occupy Naples only for the purpose of watching the English at Malta; and that the Russian establishment in the Seven Islands is for no other purpose than to observe the French army in Naples. The speech is otherwise remarkable only for the extravagant encomiums on Bonaparte, placing him far above Alexander and Charlemagne.

The different authorities of the Italian Monarchy having taken the oath of fidelity to the King, his Majesty addressed them in another speech in praise of his own moderation. He said—

"The strength of the French empire is exceeded by the moderation which regulates our political concerns. We have conquered Holland, three-fourths of Germany, Switzerland, and the whole of Italy. We have been moderate in the midst of the greatest prosperity. Out of so many provinces, we have only preserved those which were necessary to keep us at the same point of consideration in which France always was. The division of Poland, the provinces torn from Turkey, the conquest of India, and almost all the colonies, had broken the general balance, to our detriment. All that we have judged unnecessary for the re-establishment of this balance we have restored, conformably to that principle by which we have been always guided, never to take arms for the accomplishment of vain projects of greatness, nor from the desire of conquest. Germany was evacuated; its provinces were restored to the descendants of so many illustrious houses, which had been lost for ever, if we had not afforded them our generous protection. Austria herself, after two unsuccessful wars, has acquired the state of Venice. Holland was scarcely conquered, when she was declared independent. Her union with our empire would have completed our commercial system, since the greatest rivers of one half of our territory meet the sea through Holland. Still Holland is "independent; and its customs, its commerce, and its administrations, are directed by the will of its own government." Switzerland was occupied by our armies. We defended it against the combined force of Europe. Its union would have completed our military frontier. Still Switzerland governs itself. The union of the territory of the Italian republic with the French empire would have been advantageous for our agriculture. Nevertheless, after the second conquest, we confirmed its independence, at Lyons. We do more this day:—We proclaim the principle of the separation of the crowns of France and Italy, assigning for the period of that separation, the moment when it shall become possible, without danger to our people of Italy. We have accepted, and we will place on our head, the iron crown of the ancient

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Lombards, for the purpose of new-tempering it, to consolidate it, that it may not be broken in the midst of the tempests which menace it, so long as the Mediterranean shall not be restored to its pristine state.—The genius of Evil will seek in vain for pretexts to plunge the continent into war.—That which has been united to our empire by the constitutional laws of the state shall remain so.—No new province shall be incorporated with it; but the laws of the Batavian republic, the act of mediation of the nineteen Swiss cantons, and this first statute of the kingdom of Italy, are constantly under the protection of our crown, and we shall never suffer them to be attacked."

Then follow several decrees relating to the order and ceremony of the coronation of the King of Italy, Napoleon, by the Grace of God, and the constitutions, Emperor of the French, and King of Italy. The first ordains that the consecration and coronation shall take place on the 23d of May, at Milan, and regulates the order of precedence of those who are to attend. The second summonses the Legislative Body to meet on the 15th of May, at Milan; and the third summonses an extraordinary meeting of the Electoral Colleges of Italy at Milan on the 18th of May. All dated at the Palace of the Thuilleries, March 22. 1805.

Thus does this great Pacificator every day throw new obstacles in the way of peace.—Than this last act nothing could more strikingly evince the insincerity of his late overtures, and his resolution to set at contempt the efforts of Austria and Russia, the two powers which, from interest or inclination, have shewn a disposition to procure some semblance of independence for the weaker Italian States; and, instead of limiting the extent of his sovereignty to either the Italian or Ligurian republics, or to both conjoined, he proclaims himself at once King of Italy. In this sweeping and comprehensive term, is comprised, when he shall find it convenient to discuss the force of the sword, the Kingdom of Naples, the Papal States, and every part of that country, from the Alps to the extremity of Calabria.

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*HOLLAND.*

At length the new Dutch Constitution has been made public. The following is an outline of it, and of the proceedings attending its publication.

It was on the 15th March, that a copy of the new Constitution was transmitted by the Directory to the Legislative Assembly, with a letter proposing that the new Constitution should be laid before the people for their assent or dissent, and that in the eventual acceptance of it, the proposition should at the same time be made to the people to accept Schimmelpenninck as Pensionary or Chief Magistrate. They urge the propriety of adopting this new system, in consequence of the great changes that have taken place in Europe since the year 1803, and of the necessity of introducing into the Batavian social system such alteration as may make it better harmonize with the new circumstances as well of Holland as of other States—alterations that are requisite to place on a more solid footing the foreign relations of the country, but more particularly with its powerful Ally. The letter of the Directory has been referred to a Committee of nine Members.

The Constitution is divided into six Heads, and contains 87 Articles.—No alteration is to be made in the Departmental Division of the Republic. The Sovereignty is to reside in an Assembly to be called their High Mightinesses, and to consist of 19 members, to be elected every three years. In that assembly is to be invested, the power of making or rejecting laws, the power of pardon, the right of ratifying Treaties of Peace, Alliance, and Commerce, and of declaring War. They are to meet twice a-year. But the Assembly of their High Mightinesses can discuss no subjects but such as are submitted to it by the Pensionary—they may assent or reject any law proposed, but they can make no alteration in it. Treaties of Peace and Declarations of war are to be submitted to them by the Pensionary. In him resides the great executive Power. He is elected by a majority of their High Mightinesses for five years, and may be immediately re-elected; but the commencement of the first five years is only to be dated from the period of peace being concluded with England. He is to be assisted by a Council of State, whom he is obliged to consult previously to laying any law before their High Mightinesses. He may, in the Assembly of their High Mightinesses, sup-

support such law in person, or by any member of his Council—He appoints the five Secretaries of State and the Ambassadors, the Officers of the Army and Navy, and all the Public Functionaries. The Fleets and Armies of the Republic are to be at his disposal, and he has the chief direction of the National Treasury.

Such is the outline of the New Constitution. In proportion as it approaches nearer the ancient Constitution of Holland, it will be more acceptable to the people. The Directory, however, must have damped the public satisfaction, by proposing on the same day on which they submitted the new Constitution to the Legislative Assembly, a new extraordinary contribution of 3 per cent. upon property, to be paid on the 15th of August, 14th of November, and 15th of February. Yet this new Constitution will be acceded to without murmuring, if it be true, as has been reported at the Hague, that the French troops will soon evacuate Holland. Much will be cheerfully borne by any country to be released from the curse of a French army at present 23,000 men.

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## *ENGLAND.*

### Naval Operations.

All uncertainty is at length removed respecting the destination of the French squadron that escaped from Rochefort early in January. The whole of it, consisting of two three-deckers, three 74's, three frigates and two brigs, full of troops, arrived at Martinique on the 18th of February. Part of this squadron, with, it is supposed, from 1500 to 2000 troops, was immediately dispatched against Dominica. The result, so far as yet known, may be learnt from the following letter from General Prevost, Governor of the Island, to the master of the sloop Endeavour, then lying in Prince Rupert's Bay, whom the General dispatched to apprise the Commander in Chief, or the Governor or President of the first Island he should make, of his situation:—

*Head quarters, Prince Rupert, Dominica, 24th February* 1805.

"Sir,—You will inform the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's naval and land forces, that a force from France, consisting of one three-decker and two 74's, frigates, &c. with troops on board, invested the island on the 20th, and made good their landing on the following day; they were successfully resisted by the troops under my command, and repeatedly driven back. The ships of the line in vain attempted to silence the batteries; but unfortunately the town being on fire, the militia were compelled to fall back. I deemed it prudent to allow the Council to capitulate for the town of Roseau and its dependencies, whilst I attempted, by forced marches, to get into Prince Rupert with such a force as I could collect, in which I have succeeded, and wait their attack on this post, with a well-grounded expectation, that his Majesty's regular and militia forces will again distinguish themselves. I retreated from Roseau on the 21st, at four P. M. and understand the terms I prescribed are acceded to. I ordered none to be accepted that were not honourable, and desired the French Commander not to allow his troops to disgrace themselves by plundering, or any act of wantonness. You are hereby desired to sail immediately, and to make the first island you can. —If privateers in the Guadaloupe Channel prevent your turning to windward, make Montserrat or Antigua."

No further certain intelligence has been received respecting the fate of Dominica, nor of the operations of the French armament. It is reported they had made an attack upon Fort St Rupert's on the 26th February, but were repulsed. General Prevost was very strongly posted, and hoped to be able to hold out till reinforcements should arrive. Admiral Cochrane was expected daily with six ships of the line, as our naval force in that quarter was only one ship, and some frigates. At Jamaica there were three sail of the line, and 10 frigates.

Respecting the capture of the Arrow sloop of war, and Acheron bomb, by the Toulon fleet, (as mentioned in our last Magazine,) we have now authentic accounts. Letters have been received at the Admiralty from Lieut. Arthur Farquhar of the Acheron, dated in Maga prison, Feb. 11.—The two French frigates Incorruptible and Hortense, of 44 guns each, first descried the convoy on Sunday the 3d February, and continued chasing till the 5th, when the English ships gave battle to the frigates, which was continued for several hours. —The Arrow was so disabled, that she struck

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For the last ten minutes of the action, the Arrow floated like a log upon the water, with her masts, rigging, &c. cut to pieces. A short time after she struck, she sunk with three wounded Englishmen on board, and all the property of the crew. She had 13 men killed, and 27 wounded; among the former were the boatswain and captain's clerk. Two of the wounded men died in the hospital at Carthagena. An Officer writes, that they had there formed a mess, consisting of Captain Vincent and five of his officers, four military officers, taken in a transport, and two ladies, passengers. They were allowed 4s. a-day, and expected to be very soon exchanged.

All the convoy, except three, fortunately escaped; the Hortense took a transport, and sent her for Toulon. The Incorruptible took and burnt two, a transport and a light merchant brig. Had it not been for the extraordinary bravery of the Arrow and Acheron in fighting so long, a number of the English merchantmen would have fallen into the hands of the enemy. The French never dreamt of these little vessels engaging them.

The following is a correct list of the killed and wounded on board the Acheron:

Killed:—Lieut. Wm. Crockat, of the Royal Marines, a passenger; Richard Glover, private marine; John Drury, seaman.

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Lieut. Farquhar, who has so bravely defended and saved the convoy under his charge, is a native of Aberdeen.

The Venus sloop of 10 guns, with dispatches from England for Lord Nelson, was also taken by the French Toulon squadron, but the dispatches were thrown overboard.

It is certain that the Toulon fleet returned to that port in the beginning of February, having received some damage in a storm. This we are told has been again repaired, and they are expected to sail soon. An 80 gun ship took refuge in a Corsican port, being so disabled as to be unable to reach Toulon. Lord Nelson's fleet, by the latest accounts, was still off Sicily, and several frigates were cruizing in different quarters, to give his Lordship the earliest intelligence of any of the enemy's movements. The fleet was in the highest order, and the crews all healthy and in good spirits.

Admiral Cornwallis has resigned for the present the command of the Channel fleet, and Lord Gardner has been appointed in his room. His Lordship has hoisted his flag on board the Hibernia, of 120 guns, a new ship lately launched, and said to be the finest and largest ship ever built in England. Admiral Thornborough, who commanded the North Sea Squadron last year, joins Lord Gardner on board the Hibernia, as Captain of the fleet. On the 1st of April his Lordship sailed from Portsmouth with six ships of the line, to take the command of the fleet now cruizing off Brest, which now consists of 22 sail of the line, besides frigates.

About the 25th of March, the Brest fleet made a movement, indicative of something like a determination to venture out to sea. They were discovered in Bertheaume Road, near Brest, consisting of 24 sail of the line, besides frigates, transports, &c. ready to sail on an hour's notice, and seemingly fitted for an expedition, having boarding nettings, large flat boats on their booms, and hay on their quarters. Admiral Cotton, the interim commander, as soon as apprised of their motions, although he had only 17 sail, stood in within two miles of them, and offered them battle. They immediately loosed their topsails, and got under weigh, but it was only to make a stretch nearer their batteries. They have since, we understand, availed themselves of a favourable westerly breeze to get back into Brest. Their object, it is believed, was to effect a junction with the Ferrol squadron, which is stated to be ready for sea.

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ready for sea in that port, and were ordered to sail the first opportunity. The French vessels were in good order, but the Spanish were badly manned, and worse appointed. They were, however, ordered out at all events. At Cadiz, there are ten sail of the line ready for sea, but they are greatly deficient in seamen. They are closely watched by the fleet under Sir John Orde.

On the night of the 26th January, at Gibraltar, a tremendous gale from the S. W. came on about twelve o'clock, accompanied with the heaviest sea ever witnessed, which by the morning did great mischief to the shipping lying off the New Mole and the King's Bastion; upwards of twelve square-rigged vessels being completely wrecked or sunk, and many others dismasted. The gale towards morning flew round to the N. W. and seemed to blow with redoubled fury. A transport, with 300 men of the 25th regiment on board, had her stern completely beat in, and the men were obliged to be immediately landed, without either arms or baggage, as she was hourly expected to founder.—The New Mole presented a horrid scene of distress: five valuable prizes driven on shore, and full of water, two large vessels sunk, and one large vessel completely overset, besides a vast number of coasting vessels driven on shore or sunk. A fine copper-bottomed ship, laden with sugar, was driven on shore near Ragged Staff, with an English and Swedish brig, and a large Greek polacre completely wrecked, the crew saved with difficulty. The damage done is computed at least to amount to two hundred thousand pounds, and a very considerable expence and labour will be requisite to clear the New Mole of the wrecks.

The officers and crews of the Spanish frigates detained before the declaration of war, are to be sent home immediately.—Transports have been ordered to be equipped for that purpose.

Another naval action has taken place in India between the redoubted Admiral Linois and an English man of war, the Centurion of 50 guns, in which the Frenchman was completely and shamefully defeated. On the 18th Sept. last, early in the morning, while the Centurion, Captain James Lind, with the Princess Charlotte Indiaman and the Barnaby country ship, were lying in the roads of Vizagapatam, Admiral Linois, in the Marengo of 80 guns, with two large frigates of 40 guns, suddenly dashed into the roads. One of the frigates boarded the Princess Charlotte, which seems to have been in no state for defence, and carried her out. The Barnaby ran on shore by signal, but getting into the surf, was unfortunately wrecked. The three French ships then bore down upon the Centurion, and commenced a furious attack upon her, though about half a mile distant. The Centurion returned the fire so effectually, that in an hour the enemy retreated with considerable damage. The sails and rigging of the Centurion had also suffered so much, that the Captain was obliged to stand in nearer the shore, in order to get repaired. The enemy then bore down again, and began another heavy cannonade, which continued for two hours, when finding they could not accomplish their object, the Marengo cut her cable, and stood out to sea, and was followed by the two frigates with their prize. In the evening they were out of sight. What damage they received is uncertain, as only the lower deck guns of the Centurion could reach them, the distance being too great for the carronades to have any effect. All the enemy's shot reached the Centurion, which was greatly damaged in hull, masts, and rigging; but she lost no men, only nine being wounded, one of whom died afterwards. The Centurion is a crazy battered ship, being one of the oldest in the British Navy. The Captain was accidentally on shore when the first action commenced, which was nobly sustained by the first Lieut. J. R. Phillips, who was as gallantly supported by the other officers and ship's company. Captain Lind went on board in a boat before the second battle. The Centurion has since arrived at Plymouth as convoy to five East Indiamen.

The Committee of the Patriotic Fund at Lloyd's have presented Captain Lind with a sword value 100 guineas, and Lieut. Phillips with another, value 50 guineas, as a reward for their bravery on this occasion.

There are to be three separate naval commands in the Indian Seas:—Sir Edward Pellew is to have one, Sir Thomas Trowbridge another, and Sir Sidney Smith the third.

The Kitty privateer of London, has taken a Spanish privateer of 20 guns, and

and 170 men, after a severe action of an hour and a half, in which the Kitty had one man killed, and two dangerously wounded. It is a circumstance highly creditable to the crew of the Kitty, that, gallantly as they acquitted themselves, not 20 of them ever saw a gun fired before, and not twice that number ever were at sea before the ship left the Downs.

The Danish Consul at Leith has received intimation from the Royal Quarantine Board of Copenhagen, that no ship will be admitted into any of the ports of the Baltic, which has not in her passage, either by the Sound or the Belts, touched at Elsineur, Nyborg, or Frederica, and there procured a clearance and a bill of health; and that any ship attempting to enter a port without said bill of health, will be remitted to one of these fore-mentioned places, to undergo such examinations as the Commissioners of Health may judge right.

On the 1st of February those stupendous and beautiful works, the New Wet Docks at Wapping were opened for the reception of shipping. After the walls, buoys, &c. had been examined, about two o'clock a gun was fired from the Dock-yard, as a signal for the Perseverance, of Liverpool, laden with wine (being the oldest ship in the Oporto trade) to get under weigh from the river, and remain in the outer basin, she having been previously decorated with the flags of all nations, not even the French being omitted. When the water was sufficiently deep in the Docks for her reception, the inner gates were thrown open, and she sailed in majestically; but her progress was impeded by the quantity of ice in the Docks, which being cleared away, she sailed across the basin, and was moored at the north-west extremity of the Docks. The Great Dock contains exactly 20 acres, and the Little Dock or Basin about three acres, which together accommodate about 250 sail. A quay 100 feet wide surrounds the great Dock on all sides, excepting a small part subdivided and inclosed for tobacco, which is only about half that width, forming a length of wharfing of nearly 5000 feet, and an area for landing and shipping merchandize not to be paralleled. The whole comprizes a space of the extent of 60 acres. The ground next Nightingale-lane, and on the side next the Thames, near Hermitage bridge, is purchased, and will be built upon as speedily as possible. The Quays are of immense length, said to be 1260 feet, with a shed over the front for covering goods as they may be landed, which is to be coppered over when the whole is complete. There are ten round walking cranes for hoisting goods out of the shipping. The Tobacco Quay is three feet higher than the Great Quay on the north side, for the convenience of that description of vessels. The basin contains 23 feet depth of water when filled to its regular extent, and will admit of any vessel drawing 18 feet. The Great Dock is 29 feet deep, twenty of which are filled with water. Its superficial contents amount to 24 acres, and it is capable of containing 200 sail of merchantmen. There is a passage at the Western end, with proper locks, for the shipping to go out at when the whole of the Great Dock is fully occupied. This is situated between the Tobacco Quay on the west, and the great range of warehouses on the north side, which form a right angle at this point, where a drawbridge is to be thrown over for the convenience of passengers. On the spacious Quay at the north side of the Dock, there are five distinct piles of building, each containing six divisions of warehouses, which are to be connected with another range, when the whole of the plan is completed. Each body of warehouses has ten cranes in the inside. The cellars are ten feet high, are completely arched over, with an earthen flooring beaten down to equal the firm substance of brick, which is three feet above the level of the water. There are iron stauncheons from the cellars to the upper storey, to prevent the settling or sinking of the floors. From the most minute observation of these premises, it is evident, that the able and ingenious architect, J. Rennie, Esq. who superintended the whole of the building, has most sedulously aimed at blending, and has succeeded in the accomplishment of a work, which at once unites simplicity and grandeur of appearance, and in which the commodious stowage of goods, and the security of them after they have been deposited, may be looked to with the most perfect confidence. There are two tobacco warehouses at the eastern end of the Dock; the one 250 feet long and 200 wide, the other 762 feet in length

length and 160 in width. The roof of these buildings forms three distinct plain ranges across, which extends without interruption to the full length of each warehouse, displaying the most admirable simplicity of appearance on the outside, while in the inside the whole is so firmly united, that nothing short of the shock of the walls upon which it stands can possibly endanger them. This range of building is raised but one floor above the ground, though the warehouses on the north side are four stories high above the cellars. But underneath the tobacco warehouses are high vaulted cellars of the same extent, one part of which is to be appropriated to the purpose of depositing wine. Besides the materials of which the arches are composed, there is a solid paved floor over the arches, so that if by any accident the floor above ground were to catch fire, the flames cannot do the least injury to the goods deposited in the cellars.

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On the 9th March, there was a full and splendid meeting of the Highland Society of London, at which a number of the chief nobility and gentry of Scotland attended, dressed in the ancient garb of the country, to receive his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex and Earl of Inverness, as a member. His Highness was also superbly dressed in a Highland garb (the set of the Inverness plaid) highly embroidered. The sound of the Caledonian trumpet announced the arrival of his Royal Highness before the Crown and Anchor tavern, upon which a deputation of the Society went down stairs to meet him. The instrument of warlike music was played before his Royal Highness all the way, until he reached the middle of a great room, in which the Society were assembled before dinner. "The Gathering of the Clans," was played to notify that dinner was served up.

Two tables, parallel to each other, were placed from end to end of the dining-room, and a third table across the upper end of those; in the middle of the last was placed the President's chair, in which sat the Marquis of Douglas, representing his father, the Duke of Hamilton, Chief of the Douglasses, who is President for the present year. On his right hand sat his Royal Highness, and on the right and left sat four actual Chieftains, the Duke of Athol, the Duke of Montrose, the Earl of Breadalbane, and Lord Macdonald. The Earl of Harrington, who is an honorary member, was likewise present with his son, Lord Petersham, the Right Hon. William Dundas, Secretary at War, and several other persons of distinction; in all about an hundred members. The toasts were all given in the Gaelic language, and afterwards repeated in English. Besides those given at all loyal clubs, there were some peculiar to the Highlanders, and entirely martial, such as—the Great Sword and the Plaid; the Pipe of War and the Colours; Chiefs of Clans and Chiefs of Armies; the Clan of the Gael or Caledonian, Shoulder to Shoulder, &c. Mr Dignum sung the Address of King Robert I. to his army before the memorable battle of Bannock-Burn, set to the tune of that heroic Monarch's march, by Burns, and accompanied by the band of music. His Royal Highness sung two songs, with which the company were highly gratified.

The printing business in London is just now nearly at a stand. The pressmen, because a demand for additional wages had not been complied with, have, to the number of 250, left their employment; in consequence of which, several papers ordered to be laid before Parliament cannot be completed, and even the periodical publications for the ensuing month, it is thought, will not be got ready in time. The master printers, at several meetings, have unanimously agreed to resist the demand, and also resolved to take an additional number of apprentices. They intend to apply to Parliament for leave to bring in a bill to regulate the printing business, and for the better settling of disputes between masters and journeymen. The booksellers, whose interests are deeply concerned, have unanimously approved the proceedings of the master-printers, and resolved to co-operate with them.

At Drury-Lane Theatre, on Thursday the 14th of March, the Young Roscius performed the character of Hamlet, for the first time, in London, for his own benefit. Lord Sidmouth, Mr Fox, and Mr Pitt, were most forward in the applauses bestowed on the little hero of the night. The receipts were no less than *twelve hundred pounds*. Master Betty appeared to have perfectly recovered from the illness with which he was so seriously attacked in the beginning of the year,

## *SCOTLAND.*

### PRESBYTERY OF EDINBURGH.

In our last magazine we mentioned the appointment of Mr John Leslie to be Professor of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh, but that the Ministers of Edinburgh had objected to certain opinions expressed by him in a note contained in a late publication on *Heat*. At a meeting of the Presbytery of Edinburgh on the 27th March, this subject underwent a long discussion. An application was made to the Presbytery to oppose Mr Leslie's induction to his chair until the Ministers were satisfied. This application was supported by Principal Baird, Dr Finlayson, Dr Grieve, Dr Inglis, Mr Ritchie, and others, and opposed by Sir Henry Moncriffe, Dr Hunter, and others, who were of opinion, in consideration of Mr Leslie's explanatory letter, that the matter should go no farther, and that the representation should be dismisssed. A motion, however, to take the business farther into consideration on the 16th of April, was carried by a small majority, and notice ordered to be sent to Mr Leslie.

The following is a copy of the letter sent by Mr Leslie to Dr Hunter, above alluded to:—

REV. SIR,

*Tuesday morning*, 10 *o'Clock.*

"It was only this instant I learned that an opposition to my appointment, as Professor of Mathematics, is still in contemplation among some of the Members of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, and that the ground of this attack is a note subjoined to my late publication on Heat. Although personally unknown to you, the station you hold in the College, as Professor of Divinity, and my entire confidence in your candour and liberality, emboldens me to address myself to you in preference to any other individual, in order to shelter me from the most unjust of all imputations, by calling the attention of the Presbytery to the following particulars:

"In the first place, I must beg leave to observe, that the note in question refers entirely to the relation between *Cause* and *Effect*, considered as an object of physical examination, being only a more full illustration of some reasoning in the text, in opposition to the unphilosophical theories which attempt to explain the phœnomena of gravitation, &c. by means of invisible æthers; and in so far it will not be disputed that I am supported by the unanimous voice of all the soundest philosophers and divines of the present age. The gross misapplication which Mr Hume has made of these premises, to invalidate the argument for the existence of the Deity, it did not fall under my plan to point out in a treatise entirely confined to physical discussions; more particularly, as this has been already done by Dr Reid, and various other writers, in a manner which I conceive to be completely satisfactory to every reader who understands the argument. Had I been aware of the possibility, by my silence on this point, of affording the slightest colour to a misrepresentation of my real sentiments, I should have guarded against it effectually, by following out the speculation a little further than the nature of my subject seemed to me to require.

If the pressing circumstances of the present occasion had permitted me to put my thoughts in writing at greater length, I have the fullest conviction that my ideas on the question to which the note refers, would appear to coincide in every essential respect with those of the most enlightened adversaries of Mr Hume's philosophy. But limited as I am to a few moments of time, I can only disavow (which I do with the greatest sincerity and solemnity) every inference which the ingenuity of my opponents may be pleased to draw from the partial view I have taken of the general doctrine, to the prejudice of those evidences on which the truths of religion are founded. If I live to publish another edition, I pledge myself to shew, in an additional paragraph, how grossly and injuriously I have been misrepresented on this occasion. In the mean time, I beg you may make whatever use of this letter appears to you to be necessary or proper.

It is painful to be called on, after the habits of intimacy in which I have lived with the most exemplary characters in both parts of the island, to repel a direct charge of Atheism; but whatever may be the effect of such calumnies on the minds of strangers, it affords me much consolation to think,

thinks, that they will be heard with contempt and indignation by those who know the real state of my sentiments, and particularly by such as are acquainted with the strictness of those religious principles in which I had the happiness to be educated from my earliest years.

I have only to add, that my book has now been in the hands of the Public for ten months, and has passed through the hands of Reviewers of the most opposite descriptions and principles, without the slightest censure (as far as I know) upon the note in question. The mark of approbation which I have recently received from the Royal Society of London, affords, in this respect, a satisfaction still more grateful to my feelings; and, when combined with the zeal which that learned body has uniformly manifested in discountenancing every publication which tends in the most distant manner to injure the great interests of religion and morality, it encourages me to hope, that, in the present instance, I shall experience the same candour from the Reverend Presbytery of Edinburgh.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LESLIE.

*To the Rev. Dr Hunter, Edinburgh.*

The Presbytery, at the above meeting, also agreed that the Professors of the University should be requested to sign the *Formula* of the church, agreeable to the acts of Parliament and of the General Assembly, and that a Committee should be appointed for that purpose, to invite the Professors to come and sign the *Formula* at any of the ordinary stated meetings of the Presbytery.

The following is the correspondence that has taken place on this subject, and has been published by authority of the *Senatus Academicus*.

At the College of Edinburgh, the 15th day of March 1805: which day the *Senatus Academicus*, in a very full meeting, had a Letter laid before them by the Principal, subscribed by Dr Grieve, and written by authority of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, the tenor of which follows:—

"REVEREND SIR,

"As Convener of a Committee of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, I am directed to acquaint you, in their name, for the information of the *Senatus Academicus* of the University, that in a meeting of said Presbytery upon Wednesday the 27th day of February last, the following Resolution was moved, and adopted:—"Whereas for many years past the members of the University of Edinburgh have not been in the use of complying with those acts of the Parliament of Scotland, by which they are expressly required to acknowledge, profess, and subscribe, before this Presbytery, the Confession of Faith which was ratified by the said Parliament on the 7th day of June 1690, it is moved, that the Presbytery should appoint a Committee of their number, to write, in their name, a letter to the Reverend Dr George Baird, Principal of the University, intimating the desire and expectation of the Presbytery, that the laws on this subject shall be observed and obeyed by the said University, and requesting him to communicate the said letter to that Learned Body with all convenient speed." The Presbytery, after agreeing to this motion, did accordingly appoint a Committee for the purpose therein stated, whose orders I now obey in making this communication. At their desire, I beg leave farther to inform you, that the acts of Parliament to which the Presbytery more particularly refer are, act 17th of King William and Queen Mary's first Parliament, session 2d, entitled, Act for visitation of Universities, Colleges, and Schools; and act 6th of the 4th session of Queen Anne's Parliament, which is entitled, Act for securing the Protestant Religion, and Presbyterian Church Government; and that the General Assembly have specially enjoined Presbyteries to attend to the execution of said acts. Let me only add, that the Committee hope you will be so obliging as to take an early opportunity of laying this letter before the University.

"I am, with very sincere esteem,
Reverend Sir,
Your most faithful,
and most obedient servant,
(Signed) "HENRY GRIEVE."

"*Edinburgh, March* 9. 1805."

Addressed, "The Rev. Dr George Baird, Principal of the University of Edinburgh."

The

The *Senatus Academicus* having deliberated upon this subject, with that respectful consideration which is due to every communication from the Reverend Presbytery, feel it incumbent on them to submit to that Reverend Body a few observations on the contents of Dr Grieve's letter, as well as a short statement of their own views relative to the subject to which the Presbytery has been pleased to call their attention.

As the letter of the Presbytery cannot be supposed to have a reference to any Members of the University, but those of the Laity who have the honour to belong to it, the *Senatus Academicus* feel it, in the first place, incumbent on them, in justice to this class of their colleagues, to assure the Presbytery, that they were all fully apprised of the existence of those acts of the Parliament of Scotland, which the Presbytery has thought proper to point out to their notice. By accepting the offices which they hold in the University, they necessarily understood, that their assent to the Confession of Faith of the National Church was as fully implied as their allegiance to the Civil Government of the country; and they have accordingly been always ready, when called on by the Reverend Presbytery for the one purpose, or by the Civil Magistrate for the other, to give that public and formal testimony of their faith, and of their allegiance, which is enjoined by law.

Of the expediency of that resolution which the Presbytery has formed to give effect in future to the same statutes which it has allowed to remain dormant for the long period of half a century, it belongs not to the *Senatus Academicus* to judge; and they have only to regret, that the unlucky coincidence, in point of date, between the letter from the Presbytery and the interposition of an *Advisamentum* from the Ministers of this city, in the election of a Mathematical Professor, is likely to convey an idea to the Public (notwithstanding the solemn assurances which the *Senatus Academicus* have received that the coincidence was purely accidental)—that the character or principles of some of the present Professors are viewed in an unfavourable light by the Reverend Presbytery; or (what is full more to be dreaded) that it may afford to those who are ill-affected to the ecclesiastical establishment of this country, a pretence of alledging, that so much a display of zeal in its support, was not altogether without a mixture of some other motives, which the Reverend Presbytery is not equally willing to avow.

Another unfortunate coincidence of dates on the present occasion, has given deep concern to the *Senatus Academicus*. The last instance in which the Confession of Faith was signed by a Professor of this University at the time of his admission, was in the year 1758, by Dr Munro, senior; not more than four years before the election of our late Principal, Dr Robertson. As it is an acknowledged fact, that during the whole time he was in office the laws in question ceased to be enforced, "The desire and expectation of the Presbytery," so formally intimated to his Reverend successor, "That these laws shall be observed and obeyed by the University," cannot fail to be interpreted into an insinuation, that this inattention to established forms was owing to a blameable remissness on Dr Robertson's part, in the discharge of his academical duties. This implied censure on his memory the *Senatus Academicus* humbly conceive to be altogether unmerited, in as much as they have always understood, that the execution of those laws was entrusted neither to the Principal nor to the University, but to the Presbytery within whose bounds the University is situated. From the terms indeed in which the letter of the Presbytery is expressed, a person unacquainted with the circumstances of the case might be led to conclude, that the requisition, after having been made by the Presbytery, had not been complied with or observed by certain members of the University; but this idea the *Senatus Academicus* cannot for a moment suppose it was the intention of the Reverend Presbytery to convey.

In submitting these considerations to the Reverend Presbytery, the Senatus Academicus feel no small degree of satisfaction, in having had an opportunity of doing justice to the memory of a man, to whom the University owes the highest obligations; who, while he added so much to its celebrity by the splendour of his name, maintained, by the moderation, candour, and dignity of his

his character, an uninterrupted harmony in all the academical deliberations over which he presided; and made it his study to cultivate, in the intercourse of private life, those habits of mutual cordiality and confidence between the members of the Presbytery and those of the University which he considered as equally advantageous and honourable to both.

From the manner in which the Reverend Presbytery have been pleased to express themselves, it does not very clearly appear, whether they are disposed at present to enforce the law with respect to future intrants only, or to apply it also to such of the present Professors as have not already subscribed the formula. In this uncertainty, the Senatus Academicus take the liberty of submitting to the serious consideration of the Reverend Presbytery, how far, on the former of these suppositions, their present interposition can be vindicated, either in point of equity or of expediency; and whether it may not be understood as implying an unjust suspicion, that it would be regarded as a hardship on some of the present incumbents, if that interposition were to have any retrospect.

In conformity to the foregoing views, the Senatus Academicus have only to add, that the Members of the University are perfectly willing to do what the laws of the State and of the Church prescribe; and are ready to attend the Reverend Presbytery, whenever they shall be required to appear before it for that purpose.

In the mean time, the Senatus Academicus flatter themselves, that it will not be considered as presumptuous on their part, to remind such of the younger Members of the Presbytery as were formerly their own pupils (and the senior Professors have the pleasure to remark, that these form at present a very large proportion of that reverend body), —that the interests of religion are most effectually promoted by its happy influence on the character and temper of its ministers; and that an extraordinary profession of zeal for its external forms is never so likely to afford matter of triumph to its enemies, as when a suspicion is allowed to arise in the public mind, that it has been employed in subserviency to the interested views of individuals, or to the purposes of an ecclesiastical party.

The Senatus Academicus unanimously appoint an extract of this minute to be transmitted by Mr Dalzel to the Reverend Presbytery of Edinburgh.

Extracted from the record of the University of Edinburgh, by
ANDREW DALZEL, Sec.

Addressed to the Reverend
the Moderator of the
Presbytery of Edinburgh,
to be communicated.

On the 30th of March Mr Leslie was unanimously received by the *Senatus Academicus*, and he offered instantly to subscribe the *Formula* and the Confession of Faith; but a protest was entered against his admission by the Ministers on the ground before stated.

At another meeting of the Presbytery on the 24th April, Dr Davidson stated his opinion to be in favour of the subscription of the *Formula*, but considered it a hardship to oblige them to do so, who had held their offices for a long period of years, in the belief that the act had gone into desuetude. He wished this matter to end here.

Several of the Professors attended and subscribed the Confession of Faith. The Committee was continued, and ordered to draw up reasons of reference to the Synod of Lothian and Tweedale, which meets on the first Tuesday of May.

## MARRIAGES.

1804. At Purtaubghur, in the East Indies, Lieutenant James Kennedy, of the 5th regiment native cavalry, to Miss Don, daughter of Lieut. Col. Don.

*Oct.* 15. At Tritcinopoli, Mr John Hay, surgeon to the Southern Circuit of the Madras Establishment, son to Dr Thomas Hay, surgeon, Edinburgh, to Miss Margaret Gowdie, eldest daughter to Major Gen. Francis Gowdie, of the Honourable East India Company's Service, and Commandant of Tritcinopoli.

1805. *Mar.* 16. At Bath, Capt. Brooke, of the Bengal Artillery, to Miss Anne Patton, second daughter of Col. Patton, Governor of St Helena.

25. At Edinburgh, Mr Richard Bannatine, merchant, to Miss Jane Allason, daughter of Robert Allason, Esq. of Fowton.

—. At Naughton, Fife, Peter Lumsdaine, of Pittachup, to Anne Gordon, eldest daughter of the late Wm. Gordon, of Blelack.

29. At

29. At Water of Leith, the Rev. Mr William Horn, minister of the Associate Congregation, Braehead, Carnwath, to Miss Mary Somerville, daughter of Samuel Somerville, Esq. of Ampherlaw.

29. At Glenevas, Colin MacKenzie, Esq. younger of Kilcoy, advocate, to Miss Isabella Cameron, daughter of the late Ewen Cameron, Esq. of Glenevas.

*April* 1. At Berwick, William Willoby, Esq. Town-Clerk of that place, to Miss Hogg, of Eyemouth.

—. At London, Augustus Hamilton, Esq. son of Vice-Admiral Hamilton, and great grandson of James, fourth duke of Hamilton, to Miss Hyde, daughter of the late Judge Hyde, and great granddaughter of Edward, eight duke of Somerset.

—. At St Clement Danes, Robert Dundas, Esq. to Miss Jane Rollo Dundas, daughter of the late Captain James Dundas, of the Honourable East India Company's Service.

4. At Goldielee, Major John Silver, of the 88th regiment of foot, to Mrs Catherine Donald, widow of Lieutenant-Colonel Donald, and third daughter of the late Lieutenant-General Goldie.

4. At Edinburgh, Mr William Rankin, taylor, to Miss Jane Porteous, daughter of the deceased Wm. Porteous, Esq. of Carmacoop, in Lanarkshire.

6. At Hammersmith, Captain Fletcher Wilkie, of the 38th regiment, to Miss Elizabeth Hales, second daughter of the late Sir John Hales, Bart. of Mundel, Lincolnshire.

7. At London, Captain Bishop, to Lady Char. Townshend, eldest daughter of the Earl of Leicester.

15. At Leith, Mr Henry Goodsir, to Miss Magdalane Beadie, youngest daughter of the late Mr Beadie, merchant in Leith.

16. At London, Sir Drummond Smith, Bart. of Tring Park, to the Hon. Lady Sykes.

## BIRTHS.

*March* 18. At Beverley, the wife of Captain Hart, a son.

At Edinburgh, Mrs Jeffrey, spouse of Francis Jeffrey, Esq. advocate, a daughter.

4. At London, the Lady of Sir Home Popham, a son.

—. At Lleweny, in Wales, Viscountess Lady Kirkwall, a son.

28. At Scotston, Mrs Dennistoun, younger of Colgrain, a daughter.

—. In Tramore, the Lady of James Porter, Esq. two daughters.

—. At Peterhead, the Lady of Captain W. B. Nicholls, of his Majesty's 72d Highland regiment, a son.

31. At Netherly, Mrs Silver, a son.

*April* 1. At Woodburn, near Dalkeith, Lady Doune, a son, who only survived a short time.

—. At London, the Right Hon. Lady Kenyon, a son and heir.

—. At ditto, Lady Kath. Forrester, a daughter.

5. At Largnean, the Lady of Lieut.-Col. Andrew Wight, a son.

9. In the Island of Brassay, Agnes Anderson, wife to Peter Green, carpenter, three children, one male and two females, all likely to do well.

9. At Kersmains, Mrs Jaffrey, wife of Mr John Jaffrey, of twins.

12. At Edinburgh, the Lady of W. C. Cunninghame Graham, Esq. of Gartmore, a son.

14. At Melville castle, the Hon. Mrs Dundas, of Melville, a daughter.

24. At London, the Duchess of Bedford, a son.

## DEATHS.

1804. *June* 26. At Nuggur, in India, of a fever, Captain John Stewart, in the Honourable East India Company's Service, third son of the late Hon. David Stuart, brother of the Earl of Moray.

*July* 28. In the East Indies, James Thomas Grant, Esq. Judge and Magistrate of Furracabad, son of Sir James Grant of Grant, Bart.

*Aug.* 29. On his passage to India, Dr George Pattullo, son of the late John Pattullo, Esq. of Balhoussie.

—On his passage to Calcutta, Charles Law, Esq. senior merchant on the Bengal Establishment.

*Sept.* —. In the Mahratta Country, when on service with the army, Major John Campbell, younger of Combie, of his Majesty's 94th regiment, or Scots Brigade.

*Oct.* In ditto, on the same service, Lieut. Col. James Ferrier, of the same regiment, son of James Perrier Esq. Principal Clerk of Session.

1805. *March* 2. At Lisbon, where she had gone for the recovery of her health, Mrs Grant, spouse of Mr Patrick Grant, merchant in Baltimore, Maryland, and youngest

youngest daughter of Robert Gilmore, Esq. merchant there.

6. At Aberdeen, George Cruickshank, Esq.

8. At Stromness, Robert Sandison, merchant, in the 82d year of his age.

11. At Sharpitlaw, Mrs Agnes Hood.

12. At Plymouth, a few days after his arrival from the East Indies, Lieut. David Pringle, of his Majesty's ship Centurion. He had been absent eleven years; he was third son of Mr David Pringle, late of Belhaven, now in Hatton, Fifeshire.

13. At Muslin Grove, near Glasgow, Miss Elizabeth Macfarlane, daughter of the late John Macfarlane, merchant in Glasgow.

15. Mr Laurence Dundas, Excise Office, Edinburgh.

16. At London, the Right Hon. Lady Mary Cochrane, aged 76.

16. At his seat in Argyllshire, Sir James Campbell, of Inverneil, much and justly regretted.

17. At Edinburgh, Edward Broughton, Esq. Accountant-General of Excise.

19. At Portpatrick, Mr James Carmichael, Comptroller of the Customs there.

19. At Edinburgh, Mrs Preston, daughter of Sir George Preston of Valleyfield.

20. At Hadley, Middlesex, universally lamented, the Rev. David Garrow, in the 90th year of his age.

21. At Banff, Mrs George Garden Robinson.

22. At Clapham, Surry, Martin Petrie, Esq. Commissary of Accounts for the British forces in the Mediterranean. His rational piety, his firm integrity, his true patriotism, and distinguished benevolence, were almost unexampled.

22. At Arbroath, Mrs Helen Forbes of Blackford, spouse to the Rev. Wm. Bruce, minister of the English chapel there.

22. At Berbeth, Quintin MacAdam, Esq. of Craigingillan.

24. At Huntly, Mr Walter Nicoll, merchant there.

24. At Eyemouth, Captain Patrick M'Clarran, late of the 31st regiment.

24. At Edinburgh, Mrs Isabella Anderson, wife of Mr James Ferguson, writer to the signet.

24. At Inverness, aged 35, Alexander MacGregor, rector of the Inverness Academy. The feelings of the public have seldom been so much interested as in the irreparable loss of this amiable and respectable character, who endeared himself to society, and to the seminary over which he presided, by the gentleness of his manners, and the extent of his literary attainments.

25. At Perth, John Stewart of Boghall, writer in Perth.

26. At Berwick, Mr William Embleton, bookseller

27. At London, in the 59th year of his age, the Right Hon. Martin Bladen, Lord Hawke, Baron of Towton in the county of York. His Lordship is succeeded in his titles and estates by his eldest son, the Hon. Edward Harvey Hawke.

28. At Glasgow, John J. Murray, Esq. Consul from the United States of America.

—. At Gayfield place near Edinburgh, Miss Eliza Sands, daughter of the late Mr William Sands, bookseller.

—. At Polmont Bank, aged 75, Mrs Barbara Pillans, widow of the late Mr John Cleghorn, at Granton.

29. At Mount Teviot, Miss Jane Elliot, daughter of the Right Hon. Sir Gilbert Elliot of Minto, Bart. late Lord Justice Clerk.

29. At Kirkcaldy, Mrs Sarah M'Gill, widow of the late Mr John M'Gill, merchant there.

30. At Glasgow, Mrs Elizabeth MacGill, wife of Mr John Strang, merchant.

Lady Fawcett, widow of the late General Sir William Fawcett.

At Stoke, the Right Hon. Lord Geo. Lennox, Governor of Plymouth, Colonel of the 25th regiment of foot, and only brother to his Grace the Duke of Richmond. His Lordship was in the 68th year, and married Lady Louisa Kerr, daughter of the Earl of Ancram, by whom he has left General Lennox, Countess Bathurst, and the Hon. Mrs Berkeley.

At Bath, Lieut. Col. Freemantle, late of the Coldstream regiment of Guards.

26. At London, William Trotter, Esq. Tower Street, merchant, much regretted.

30. At Lisbon, where he went for the recovery of his health, William Macleod, Esq. late First Lieutenant on board his Majesty's frigate La Virginie, and fourth son of Donald Macleod, Esq. of Geanies, Ross-shire.

Lately,

Lately, at Dursley, in Hants, Philip Perse, a farmer, who has perpetuated his benevolence towards the poor, by leaving the interest of 200l. to those who do not receive alms from the parish of Burbege, and for a school there.

John Burgess carpenter, of Newton, in the parish of Prestbury, Cheshire, aged 104. In the course of his very long life he never had any illness till three days preceding his death.

—. At her house, St Enoch's Square, Glasgow, Mrs Blackburn.

—, At Ballygowan, Robert Rollo Reid, Esq.

Lately, on his passage from Madras to Prince of Wales' Island, Col. John Montresor, of his Majesty's 80th regiment.

*April* 1. At Leith, Mr George Kellie, surgeon.

1. At Exeter, Major William Erskine of the 71st regiment, youngest son of the deceased James Erskine, Esq. of Cardross.

2. At Edinburgh, Mr James Drybrough, brewer.

3. In Dublin, Dr William Gray, physician, much and justly lamented as a gentleman of high professional knowledge, and of the most hospitable and liberal disposition.

6. At Parton Manse, Mr James Parlane, surgeon in Glasgow.

7. At ——, James Lindsay Carnegie, Esq. of Boysack, Advocate.

7. At Edinburgh, Mrs Eleanora Scott, widow of the deceased John Balfour, late of Kirkhouse.

8. At Hamilton, near Peebles, Mr Richard White, farmer.

—. At Greenwich, Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Hosmer, of the royal artillery.

9. At London, after a confinement of three weeks, at the advanced age of 78, Gawin Hamilton, Esq. of Killileagh Castle, in the county of Down, a gentleman of the most amiable manners, and the most independent spirit. By his death, his son, Archibald Hamilton Rowan, Esq, has acquired a very great addition to his fortune.

10. At Aberdeen, in the 87th year of her age, Mrs Mary Guthrie, relict of the late John Fullarton, Esq. of Dudwick.

10. At Eyemouth, in the 88th year of her age, Mrs Betty Martine, relict of Thomas French of Herdrig, Esq.

11. At Dumfries, Mrs Large of Barnsoul.

11. At Thurso, Donald Macleod, Esq. of Lyncgar.

12. At his house, Croom's Hill, Greenwich, Charles James, Esq. one of the Directors of the Sun Fire office.

13. At London, Colonel Scudamore, one of the Representatives in Parliament for the city of Hereford.

15. At Duddingston, the Rev. William Bennet, minister of the gospel there.

15. At Logie, Kincardineshire, in the 16th year of her age, Miss Agnes Burnet, only daughter of A. Burnet, Esq.

—. At Dedon Hall, Essex, after three or four days illness, Lady Vincent, wife of Sir Francis Vincent, Bart. and daughter to the Hon. Edward Bouverie, M. P.

—. At Edinburgh, Robert Macintosh, Esq. advocate, aged 77.

15. At his villa at West End, in Surry, the Earl of Tyrconnel, aged 54, of an apoplectic fit. His Lordship dying without male issue, his title devolves to his nephew George Carpenter. By his first wife, Lady Frances Manners, sister of the late Duke of Rutland, he had no children; by his second wife, Miss Delaval, daughter to Lord Delaval, he has left an only daughter, Lady Susan Carpenter.

15. At Glenfalloch, Mrs Campbell, of Glenfalloch.

16. At Edinburgh, the Right Hon. Catharine Lady Forbes, widow of the late James Lord Forbes, and mother of her Grace the Duchess of Athol.

16. At Edinburgh, in the 10th year of her age, Miss Eliza Cunningham, daughter of Major William Cunningham, in the service of the Hon. the East India Company.

18. At Weirbankhouse, near Melrose, of a stroke of the palsy, aged 69, the Rev. John Kemp, D. D. one of the ministers of the tolbooth church, Edinburgh, and Secretary to the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian knowledge.

22. At Edinburgh, Miss Marjory Robertson, eldest daughter of the deceased Mr William Robertson, Keeper of the Records.

23. At Edinburgh, Sir James Colquhoun of Luss, Bart. Sheriff-depute of Dumbartonshire.

*Price*

*Price of Stocks.*

| 1805. | Bank Stock. | Omnium. | 3 per cent Consols. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 29. | —— | 3¾ pr. | 58⅛ ⅜ |
| Apr. 1 | —— | 3 2¾ — | 58⅝ ¼ |
| 4. | —— | 2⅞ ¼ — | 57¾ ½ |
| 8. | 173½ | 3¼ ½ 4 — | 57¼ ⅝ |
| 15 | —— | 3¼ 3 — | 58 57¾ |
| 18. | 174 | 3 2¾ — | 58⅛ 57¾ |
| 22. | —— | 3 2¾ — | 58 57¾ |

*Prices of Grain per quarter, Corn Exchange, London.*

| 1805. | Wheat | Barley | Oats. | Pease. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | s. s. | s. s. | s. s. | s. s. |
| Mar. 29 | 94 104 | 41 47 | 22 28 | 42 48 |
| Apr. 1. | 90 103 | 41 47 | 22 28 | 41 47 |
| 8. | 90 104 | 41 46 | 21 26 | 41 48 |
| 11. | 90 106 | 41 46 | 24 29 | 42 48 |
| 15. | 90 100 | 37 44 | 21 26 | 42 47 |
| 18. | 88 98 | 36 42 | 20 26 | 38 44 |
| 22. | 90 94 | 35 40 | 20 25 | 35 41 |

FIARS.—Crop 1804.

| Forfar. *per Boll.* | s. | d. | Kincardine. *per Boll.* | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wheat | 39 | 3 | Wheat | 42 | 0 |
| Barley | 28 | 0 | Oatmeal | 18 | 0 |
| Chester Bear | 23 | 6 | Oats with fod. | 21 | 0 |
| Oats | 18 | 11 | Do. without | 18 | 3 |
| Oatmeal | 10 | 2 | Bear with do. | 26 | 0 |
| Pease & Beans | 17 | 10 | Do. without | 25 | 0 |
| | | | Pease without | 18 | 0 |

Fife.

| *per Boll* | s. | d. | *per Boll* | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| White Wheat | 41 | 0 | Meal by wt. | 19 | 6 |
| Red ditto | 39 | 6 | Do. by meas. | 18 | 6 |
| Barley | 29 | 0 | Pease & Beans | 19 | 0 |
| Bear | 27 | 0 | Rye | 20 | 0 |
| Oats | 17 | 6 | Malt | 52 | 0 |

Aberdeenshire.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farm Meal, 8 stone - | L. | 0 | 17 0 |
| Farm, or Market Bear, without fodder - - - | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| White Meal, 9 stone - | 0 | 19 | 3 |
| Great Oats, with fodder - | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Do. without do. - - | 0 | 19 | 0 |
| Brocked Oats, with fodder - | 0 | 19 | 0 |
| Do. without do. - - | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Bear with fodder - - - - | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| Market Malt - - - - - | 1 | 16 | 0 |
| Pease - - - - - - - - - | 0 | 17 | 0 |
| Wheat - - - - - - - - - | 2 | 5 | 0 |

*Prices of Grain at Haddington.*

| 1805. | Wheat. | Barley. | Oats. | Pease. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |
| Apr. 5. | 52 0 | 31 0 | 19 0 | 19 0 |
| 12. | 50 0 | 31 0 | 21 0 | 18 0 |
| 19. | 49 6 | 29 0 | 20 0 | 17 0 |
| 26. | 47 0 | 30 0 | 20 0 | 15 0 |

*Prices of Oat, Pease, and Barley Meal, in Edinburgh Market per Peck.*

| 1805. | Oatmeal. Bolls. | Price. d. | d. | Pease & Barley Meal. Bolls. | Price. d. | s. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Apr. 2. | 230 | 16 | 15½ | 40 | 15 | 1 |
| 9. | | 16 | 15½ | | 15 | 1 |
| 16. | 300 | 16 | 15½ | 66 | 15 | 1 |
| 23. | | 16 | 15½ | | 15 | 1 |
| 30. | | 16 | 15½ | | 15 | 1 |

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The *Poem on Edinburgh*, with several other poetical pieces, have, from an accidental want of room, been delayed till next month.

*Candid* is too personal for admission.

The *Traveller* arrived too late for insertion, but will appear in our next. We would just hint to the ingenious author, that the size of his two former numbers was better suited to the limits of our miscellany.

Several *prose pieces* have been received within these few days, which we have not yet had leisure to examine.

Drawn by Mis.s Cockburn

Engd by R. Scott

COLUMN to the MEMORY of SMOLLETT, and the HOUSE in which HE WAS BORN.